CYNICAL HYSTERIE HOUR 1

KIRIKO KUBO

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Cynical Hysterie Hour Vol. 1

Kiriko Kubo

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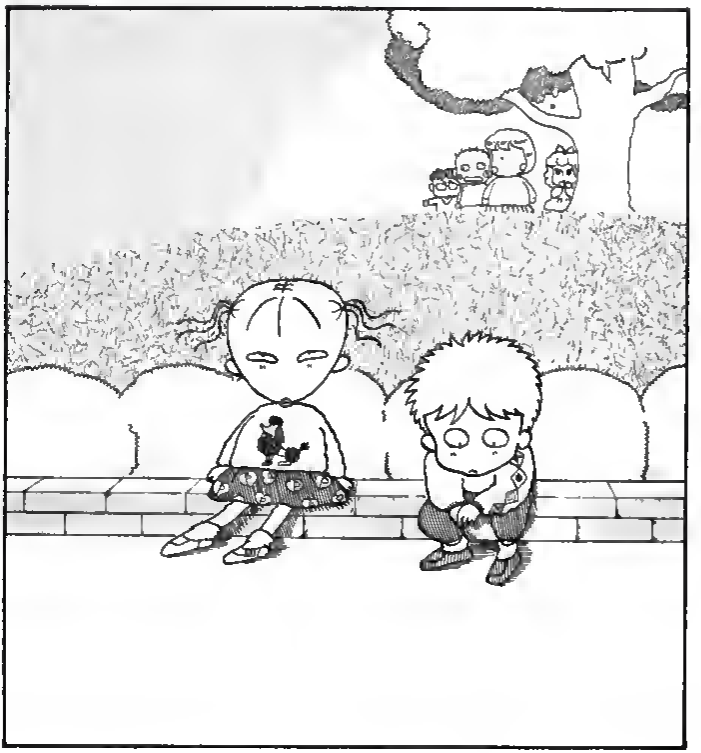
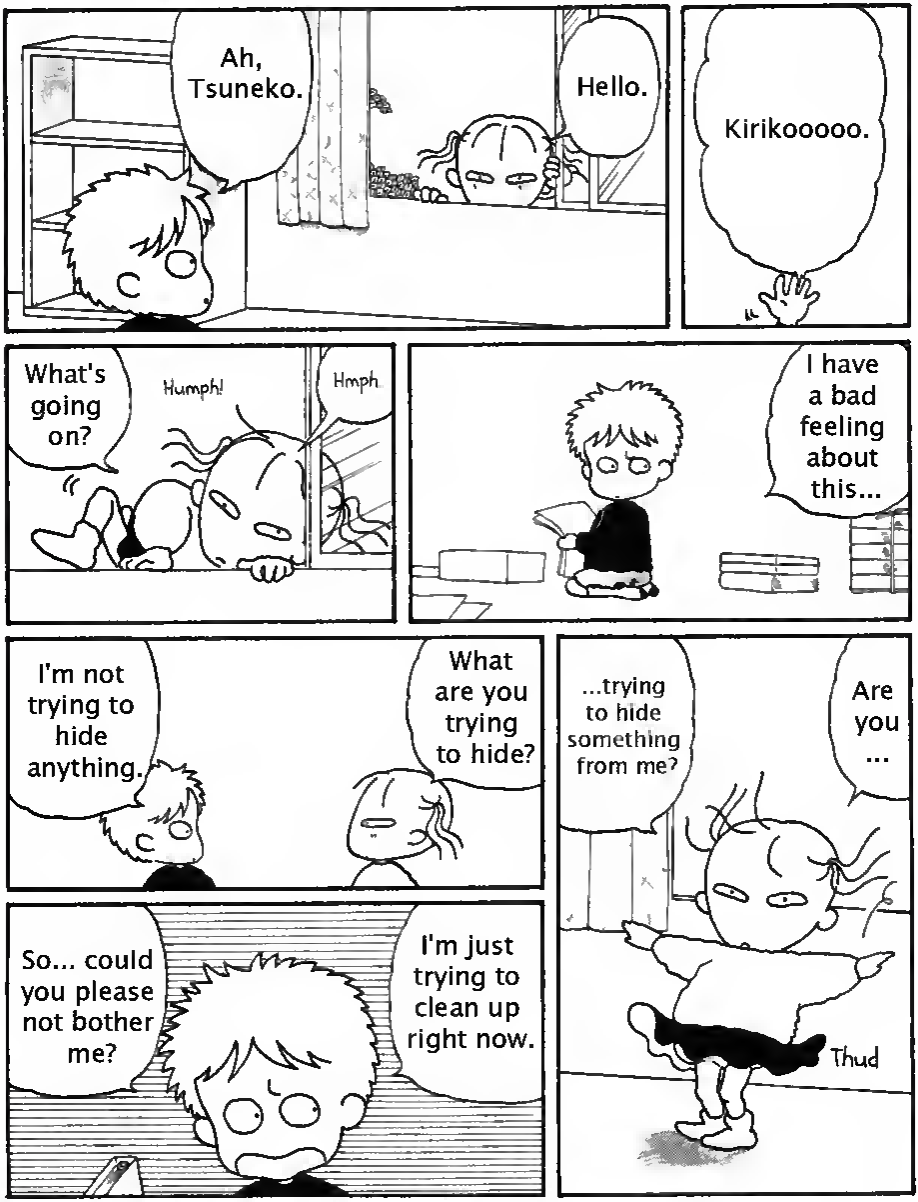
Special Episode Francoise

This is a work of fiction.
The characters and events portrayed here bear
no connection to real people, groups or events.



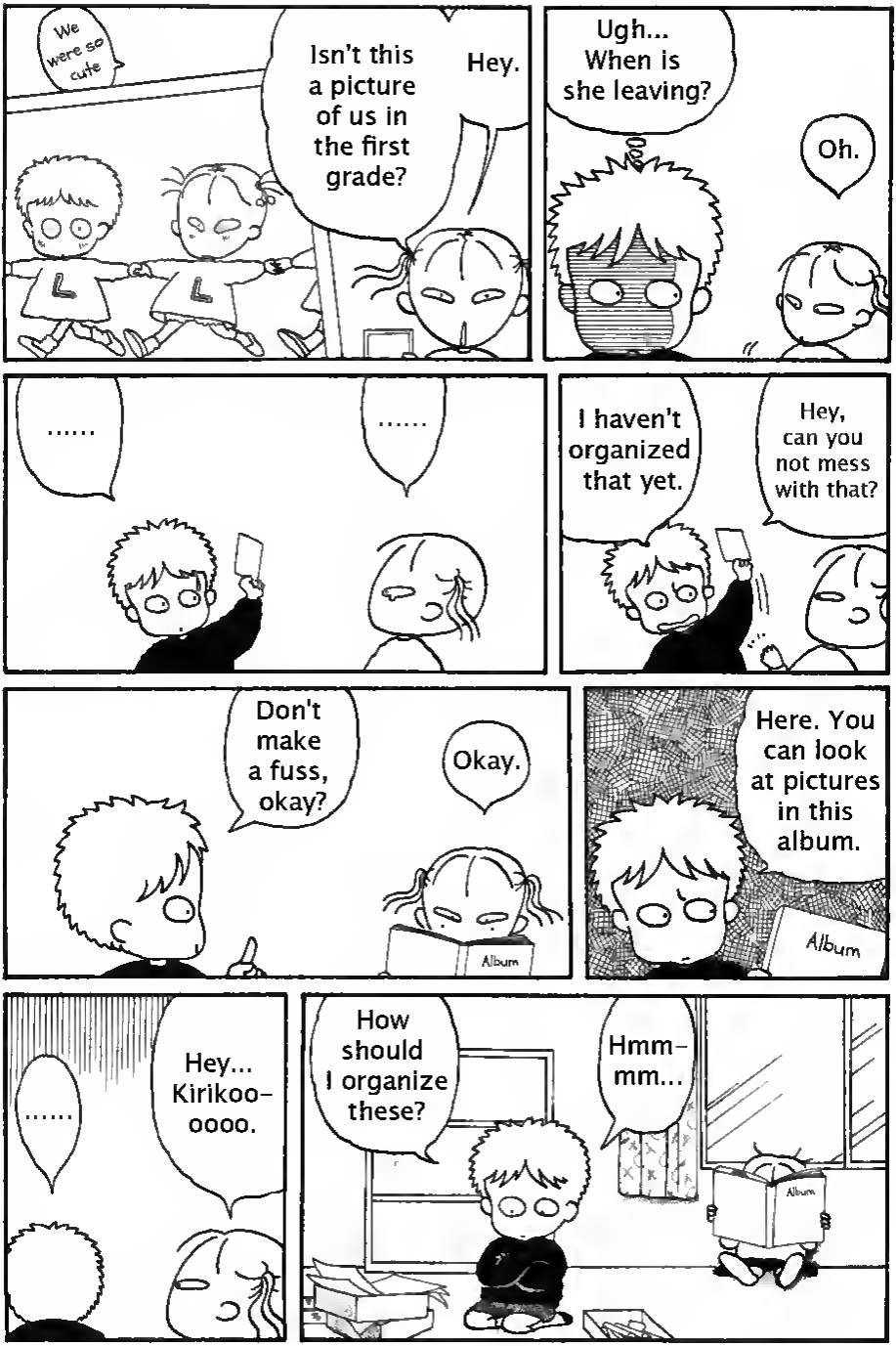
Cynical Hysterie Hour

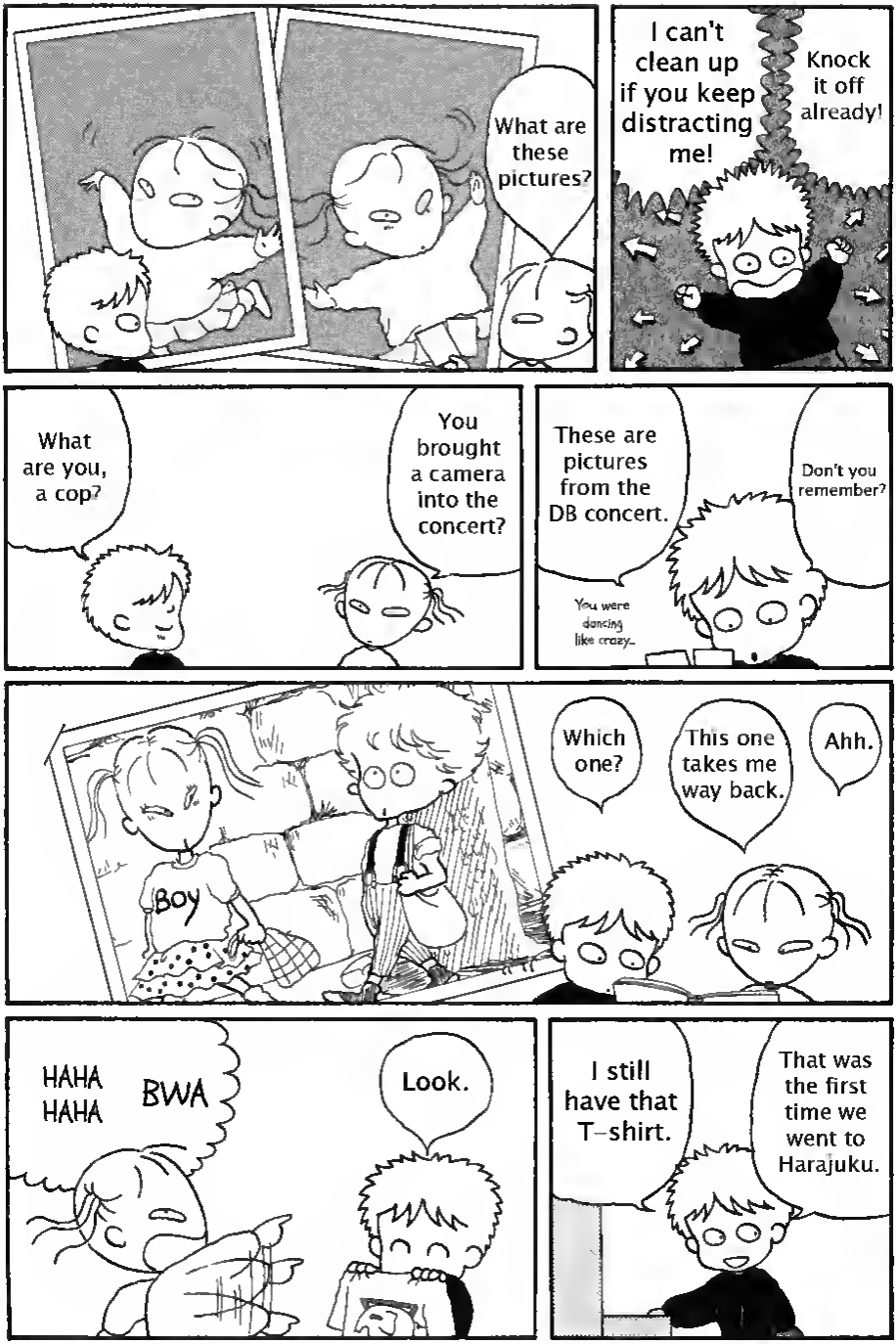
Opening Performance



How could I !?
You don't trust me?
Why indeed ...
Why would I bother you?
You read through my diary before....
It's just ...
Look
See?
Meow
Yeah right... You're not that cute.
I'll sit as quiet as a little kitten.
Shrine fox

THWAP
BWAHAHAHAHA
You're a fox. A fox guarding a shrine.
Grr
You're not a cat.
Hm.
N... no, I didn't.
Gulp
No.
How did she know?
You just called me a fox, didn't you?
That hurt! What's your problem, Tsuneko?
See? You're bothering me now.
H... hey!
Stare
She's got a weird sixth sense...
Ab... absolutely.
Are you positive?
Is that so...
Ignore her and
get to it
Hmph.
No, I'm not.

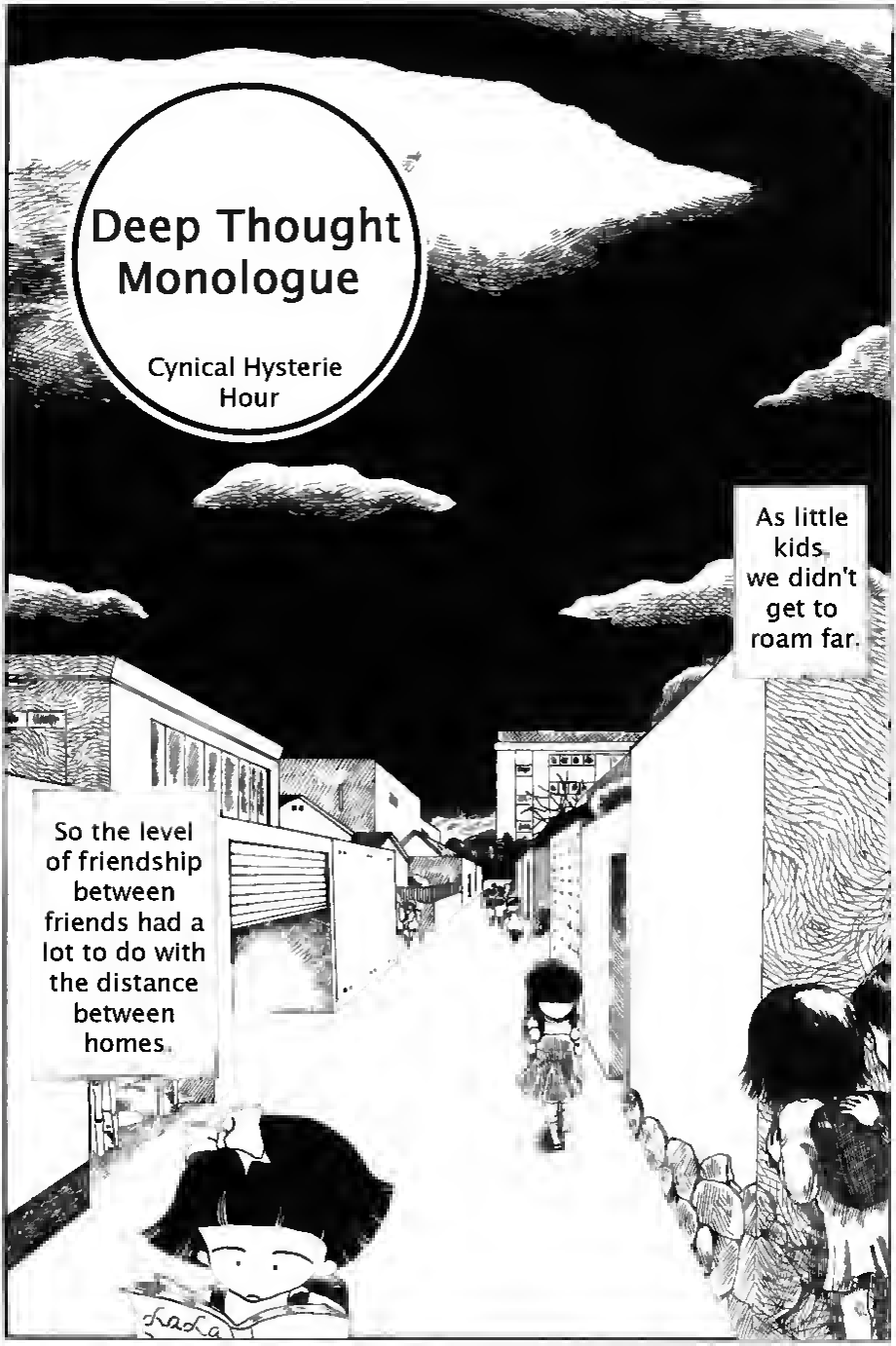

We were so cute
Isn't this a picture of us in the first grade?
Hey.
Ugh... When is she leaving?
Oh.
.....
.....
I haven't organized that yet.
Hey, can you not mess with that?
Don't make a fuss, okay?
Okay.
Album
Here. You can look at pictures in this album.
Album
.....
Hey... Kirikoo-oooo.
How should I organize these?
Hmm-mm...
Album


What are these pictures?
I can't clean up if you keep distracting me!
Knock it off already!
What are you, a cop?
You brought a camera into the concert?
These are pictures from the DB concert.
You were dancing like crazy.
Don't you remember?
Boy
Which one?
This one takes me way back.
Ahh.
HAHA HAHA
BWA
Look.
I still have that T-shirt.
That was the first time we went to Harajuku.

Yeah.
We looked more sophisticated the next time we went to Harajuku.
But hey.
Yup.
That was a stupid thing to buy.
Hmmm.
Hmmm.
Shee used to have a really round face.
Hey, check this one out.
Oh.
You used to have a funny face too, Tsuneko.
That's so funny!
GWA-HA-HA
Tsunta's hair is different too.
Hey, you're right.

What about you, Kiriko?
Flip Flip
Grr
You were ugly.
Ahhh!
You're one to talk!
We've become more beautiful. Exponentially so.
Yeah.
We've changed, huh...?
Swivel

The title must have been…


Deep Thought Monologue
Cynical Hysterie Hour
As little kids, we didn't get to roam far.
So the level of friendship between friends had a lot to do with the distance between homes.

Did you know...
Tsuneko and I lived on the same block and both thought we were good friends.
School
Shrine
Post Office
She couldn't stand it when I knew something she didn't.
Huh Really? ...
...that our ancestors were monkeys, Tsuneko?
Foxes?
Maybe they were foxes.
Maybe they weren't monkeys at all.
How do you know they were monkeys!?
She'd turn on me suddenly

We're through, Kiriko!
Tsuneko was self-conscious about her slanted eyes.
So are your ancestors foxes then, Tsuneko?
Grrr
She just makes things up.
She's so stupid.
Humph!
Pfft!
If you're gonna get mad, you shouldn't have mentioned foxes in the first place.
Let's go.
Bus Stop
Hey, do you want to go to Shee's house?
Best friends.
We're best friends, right?
But we would go back to being friends after a few days.

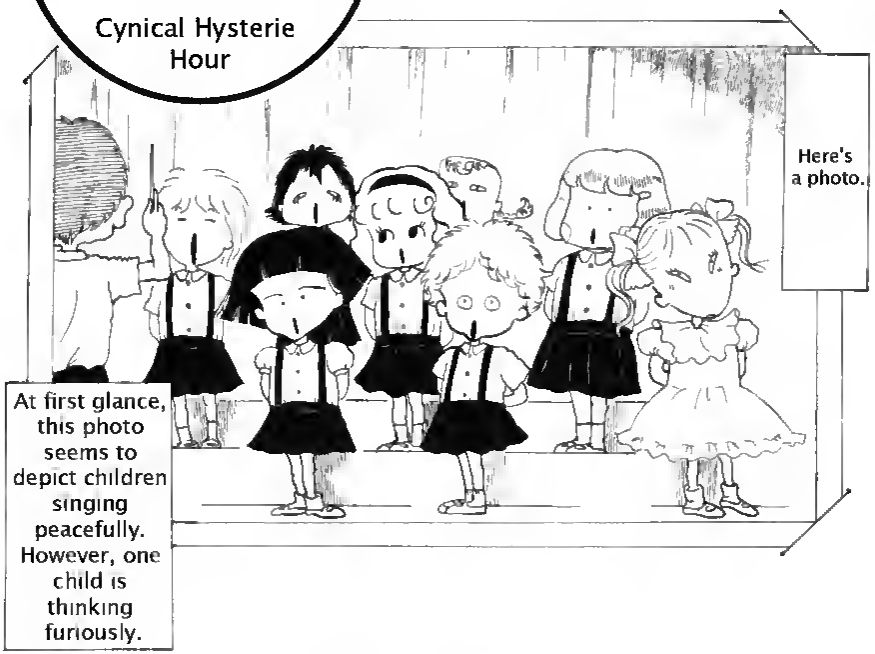
Let's play.
Shee was playing with Hanako and Tsunta.
Tsuneko didn't like the grouping.
..going home
I'm..
Tsuneko and Tsunta will be on the other team.
Kiriko and Hanako will be on my team.
We're splitting into two teams to play a game.
Waaaah!
Baby!
Bye
You're leaving?
I'm going home too.
Waaah Waaah
That's why I can't stand Tsuneko.
Yeah.
She doesn't have to cry over it...

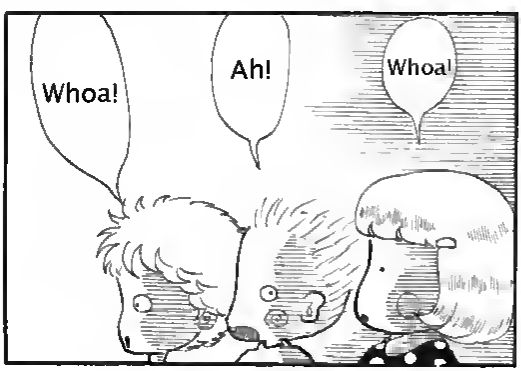
She came home crying.
Why are you being mean to Tsuneko?
Being mean?
Oh, Kiriko.
When I rang the doorbell, Tsuneko's mother answered.
I was too young to explain what had happened in a coherent manner.
Um...
She ...
Uh, uh...
What!?
...is it, Kiriko?
That's not very nice...
Did you call Tsuneko a fox?
Another thing.
Huff
Huff
That's what I was thinking, but I was just a helpless child and couldn't argue with her.
You've got it all wrong!

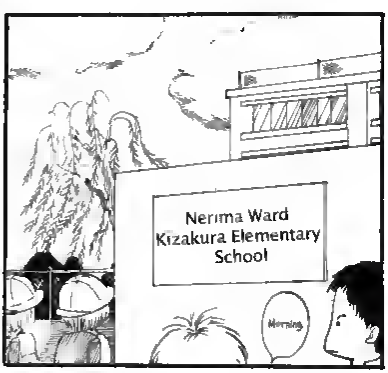
.....
Kiriko came to say sorry.
Tsuneko! Come here.
Be nicer to her, okay?
But at least you came to see her, Kiriko.
I'm sorry, ... Tsuneko.
I forgive you.
Tell her you forgive her. You're friends, right?
I was often tormented by these frustrating misunderstandings.
?
Uh-huh...
We're best friends, right?
Remember, no fighting now.
And then we played together as if nothing had happened.

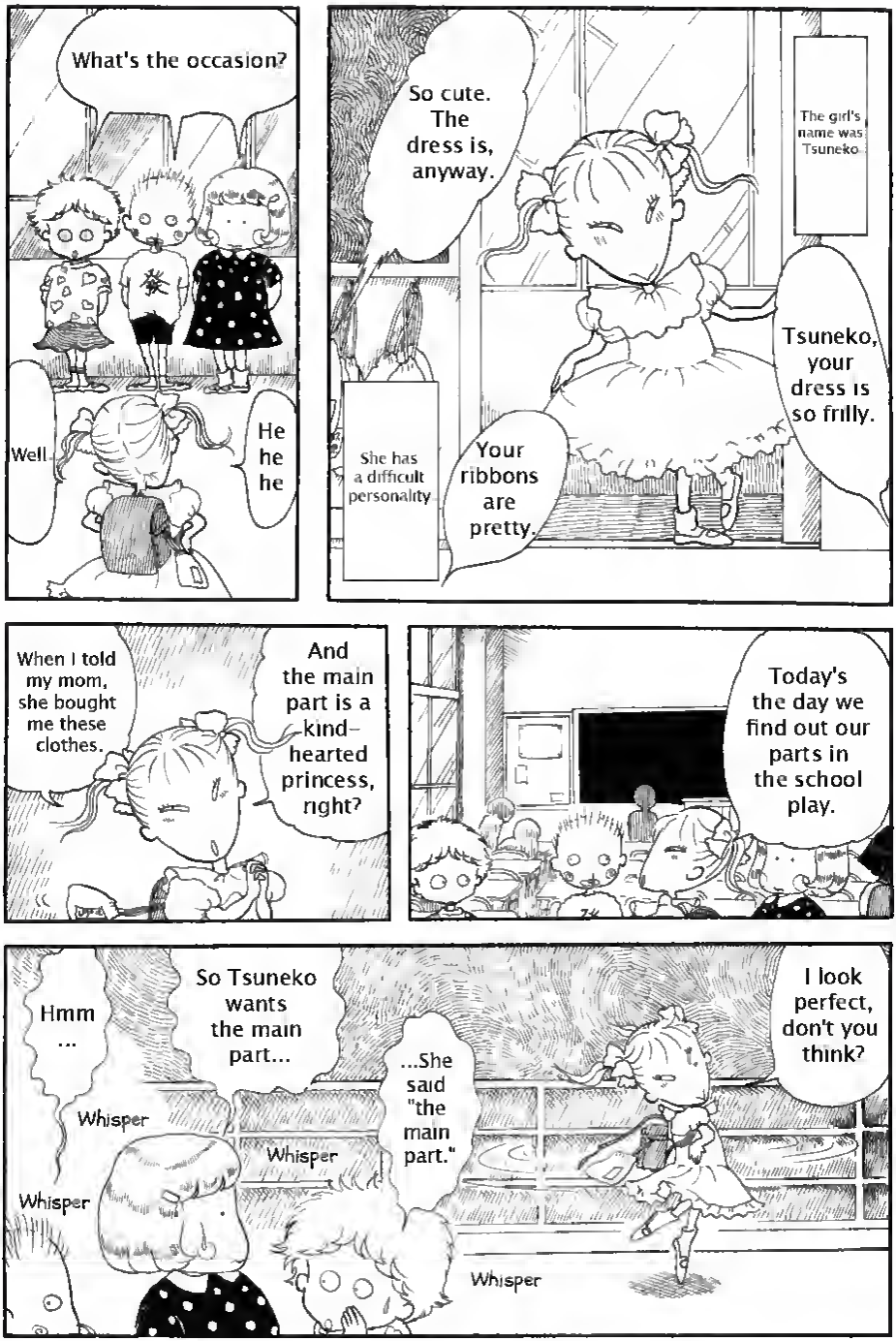
Heroine

Cynical Hysterie Hour

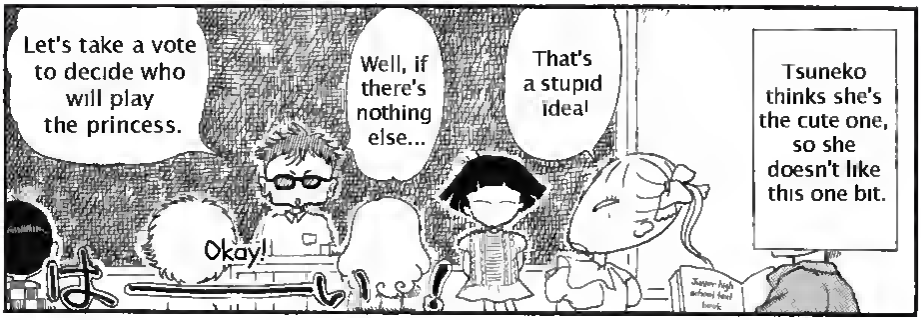

Here's a photo.
At first glance, this photo seems to depict children singing peacefully. However, one child is thinking furiously.

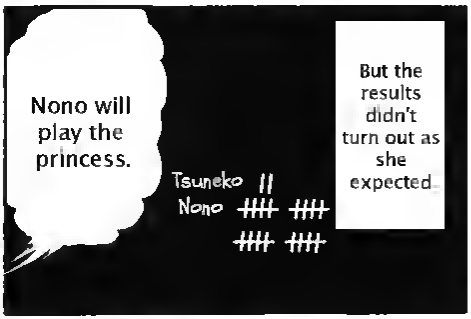


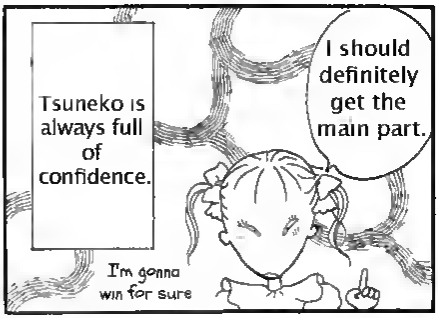



What's the occasion?
Well...
He he he
So cute. The dress is, anyway.
The girl's name was Tsuneko.
Tsuneko, your dress is so frilly.
Your ribbons are pretty.
She has a difficult personality
When I told my mom, she bought me these clothes.
And the main part is a kind-hearted princess, right?
Today's the day we find out our parts in the school play.
Hmm ...
So Tsuneko wants the main part...
Whisper
Whisper
Whisper
...She said "the main part."
I look perfect, don't you think?
Whisper

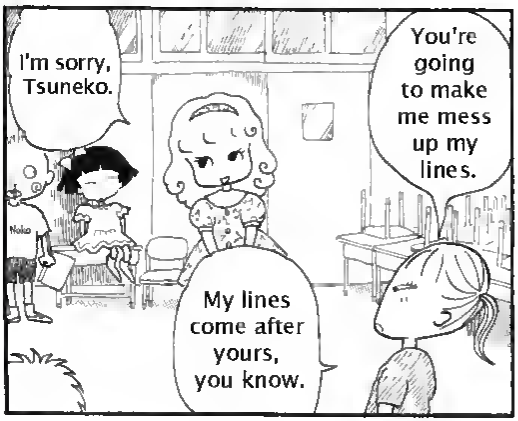
Hehe ♡
I'll put myself forward to show my enthusiasm.
A bit uncomfortable...
Now let's decide who plays which part.
Roles:
-Princess
-Fox A
-Fox B
Roles:
-Princess
-Fox A
-Fox B
...should play the princess!
I...
Tsuneko.
Yes.
Huh?!
Over here!
Me!
Me!
There's a girl like Nono in every class – the cute one.
Who, me?
What?
Yeah!
Perfect!
Clap Clap
I think Nono would make a good princess.
Class rep!
Yes, Kiriko?

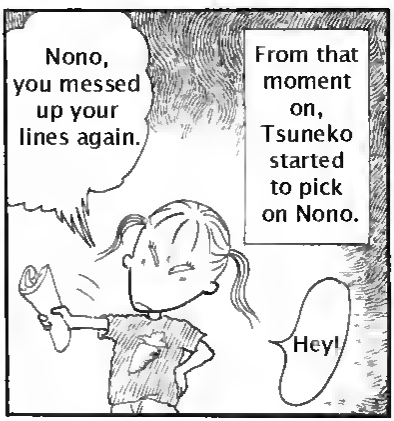

Let's take a vote to decide who will play the princess.
Well, if there's nothing else...
That's a stupid idea!
Tsuneko thinks she's the cute one, so she doesn't like this one bit.
Okay!
はーい!


Nono will play the princess.
But the results didn't turn out as she expected.
Tsuneko
Nono


Tsuneko is always full of confidence.
I should definitely get the main part.
I'm gonna win for sure

NB. The 2 votes for Tsuneko were from Tsuneko and Nono, who humbly did not vote for herself
Thanks
Good luck, Nono.
むっす
Hrmph!
Tsuneko got the part of Fox A.

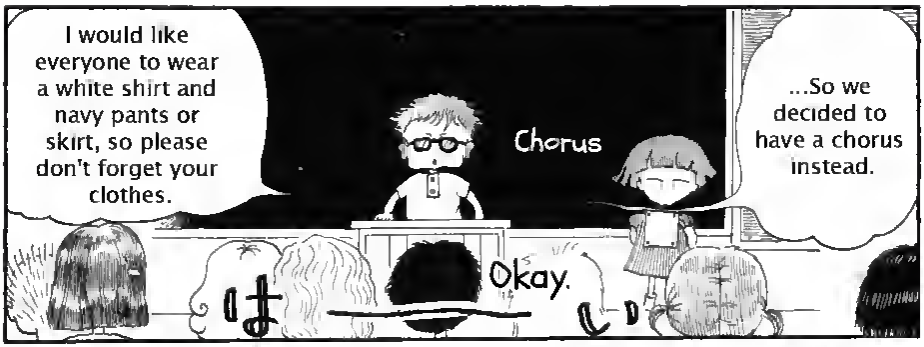

I'm sorry, Tsuneko.
You're going to make me mess up my lines.
Nono
My lines come after yours, you know.


Nono, you messed up your lines again.
From that moment on, Tsuneko started to pick on Nono.
Hey!

...Uh, I'll try.
.....
.....
Do it like this!
That's not very princess-like, Nono!
Aren't you being a bit hard on her?
Tsu-neko.
You think crying will make it okay?
Sniff
Putting on sad eyes, trying to look cute...
That's totally wrong.
No no.
Meanie...
No good.
Am I wrong?
You're not wrong, but...
Yeah...
This is for Nono's own good.
It's called tough love.
You think I'm picking on her?
What!?
I am, but...
Guts!
She should have the guts to take some criticism.
Nono is playing the lead.

. so they agreed with her.
Nono's a cry-baby.
Yeah
Sounding tough is kind of cool.
Guts ...
Everyone was into reading comics about jocks who lived to play sports...
Ouch!
Impressed_
She picked on Nono mercilessly, until mild-mannered Nono lost all her confidence.
I can't do it
You don't have any talent, do you?
Even when no one was watching
Sniff
... but you should be doing better.
I don't want to have to say it.
Tsuneko got carried away in front of everyone
Is Nono absent again?
Fox
Huh?
What should we do?
Now's my chance to get the main part...
Chatter
Hee-hee-
She's dragging us all behind.
That's right.
We can't practice without her.
That's three days in a row.
Fox

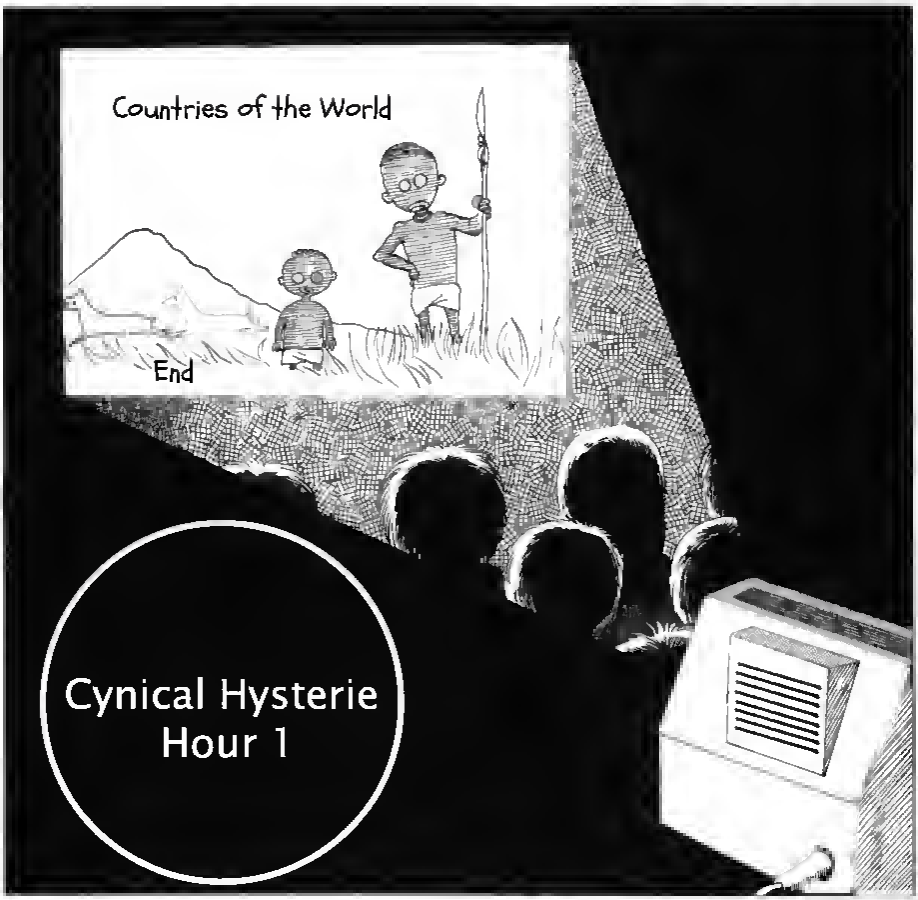
You know ...
...I've already memorized the Princess's lines.
I don't feel like doing it anymore.
Me neither.
I mean the Fox ...
...hardly has any lines, so it's an easy part to learn.
FOX
We hardly ever practice any way.
There probably won't be enough time
Should we ask the teacher to change the performance?
How about a chorus? We're already practicing during music class
So...
...if somebody will play the Fox instead of me...
Let's do it. Let's do it
Let's go. Let's go.
It's too bad for Nono...
...but I'll play the princess.
Huh?
Empty
がらーーん ....


I would like everyone to wear a white shirt and navy pants or skirt, so please don't forget your clothes.
Chorus
...So we decided to have a chorus instead.
Okay.

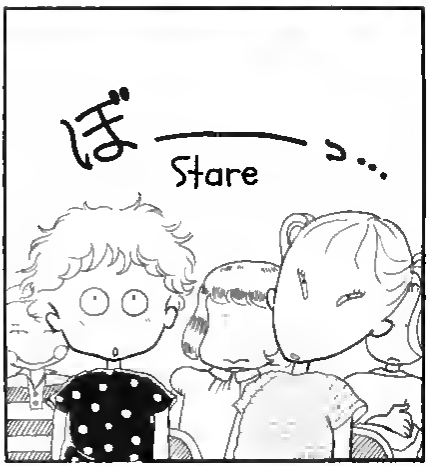
... part...
.....
My...

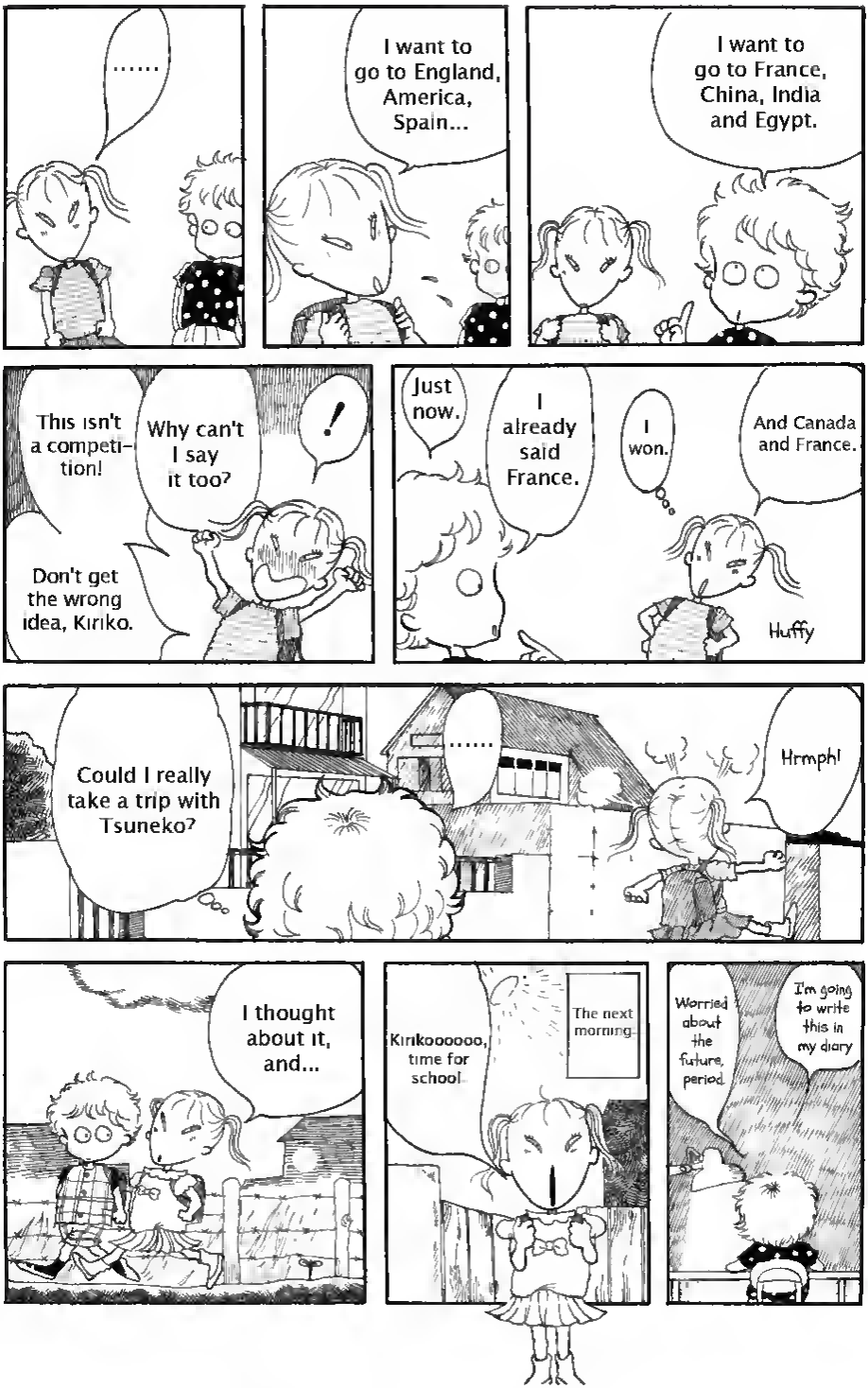
Tsuneko tried to be the heroine to the very end.

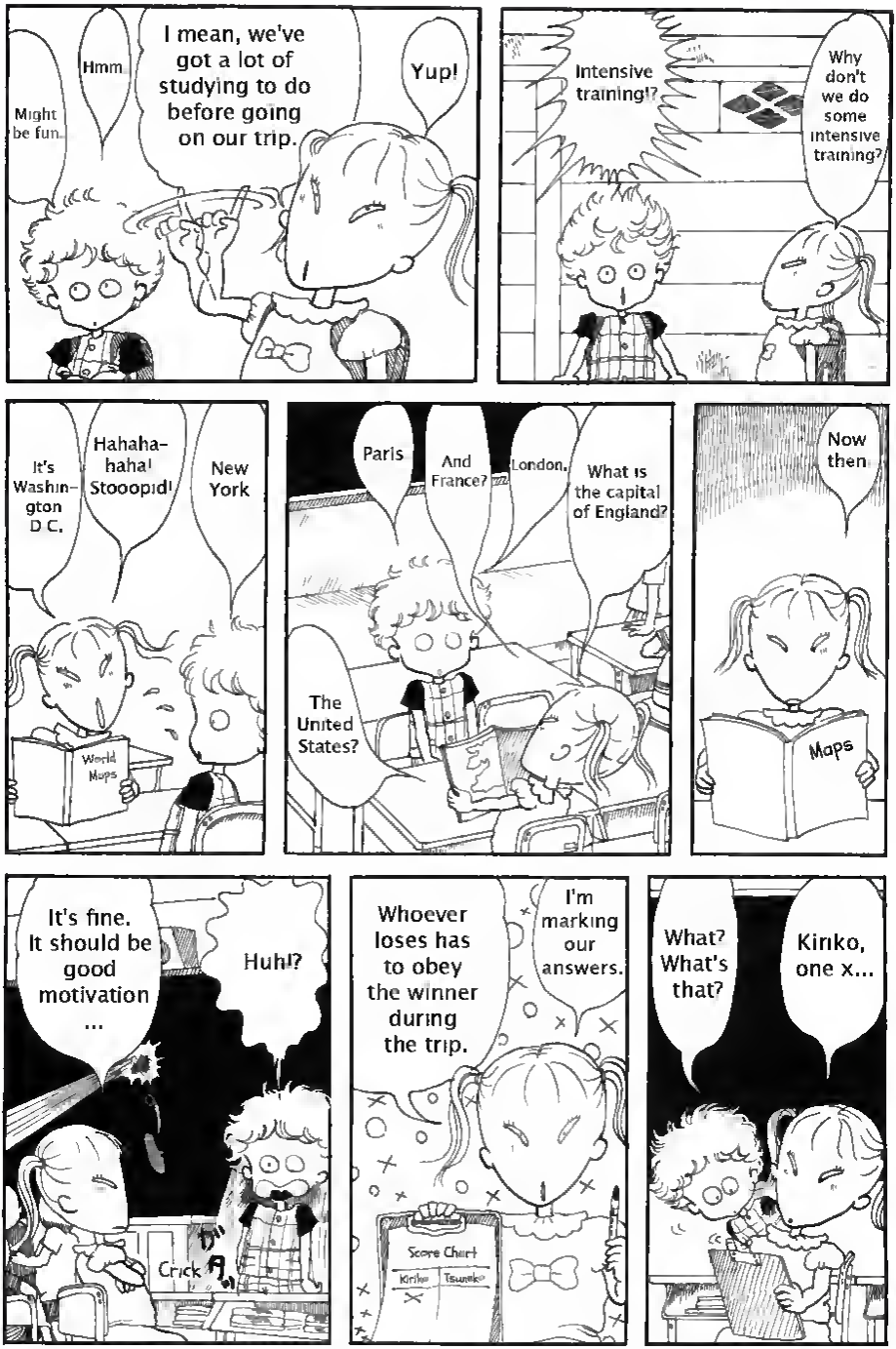
The green fields of Musashino...
The day of the school art festival


Countries of the World
End
Cynical Hysterie Hour 1

It's a promise, Tsuneko
安易に約束
Light-hearted promise
Kiriko, let's take a trip around the world together!


ぼ
Stare
っ…

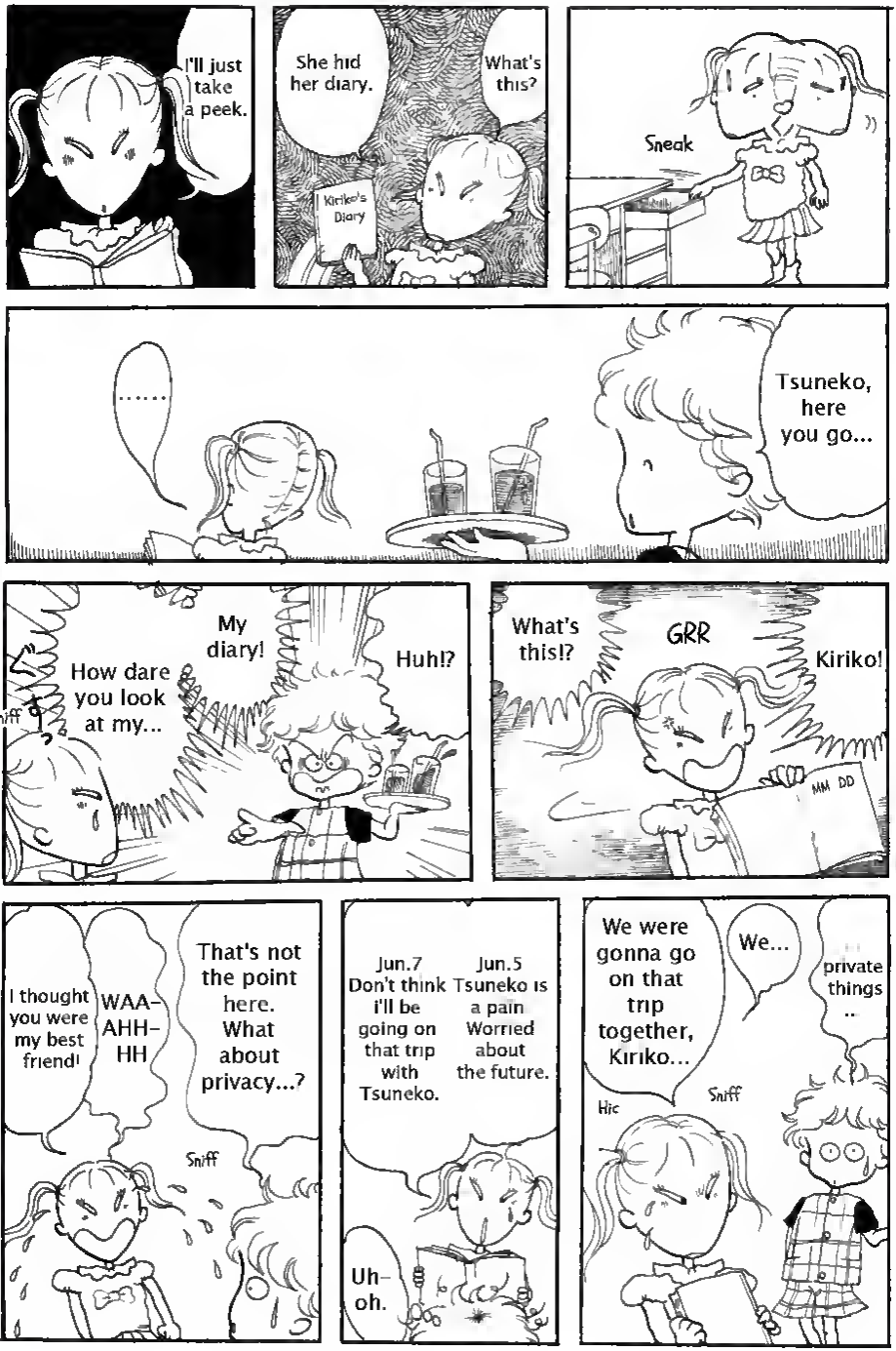

.....
I want to go to England, America, Spain...
I want to go to France, China, India and Egypt.
This isn't a competition!
Why can't I say it too?
!
Don't get the wrong idea, Kiriko.
Just now.
I already said France.
I won.
And Canada and France.
Huffy
Could I really take a trip with Tsuneko?
.....
Hrmph!
I thought about it, and...
Kirikoooooo, time for school.
The next morning.
Worried about the future, period.
I'm going to write this in my diary


Might be fun.
Hmm
I mean, we've got a lot of studying to do before going on our trip.
Yup!
Intensive training!?
Why don't we do some intensive training?
It's Washington D.C.
Hahaha-haha! Stooopid!
New York
World Maps
Paris
And France?
London.
What is the capital of England?
The United States?
Now then
Maps
It's fine. It should be good motivation ...
Huh!?
Crick
Whoever loses has to obey the winner during the trip.
I'm marking our answers.
Score Chart
Kiriko
Tsuneko
What? What's that?
Kiriko, one x...

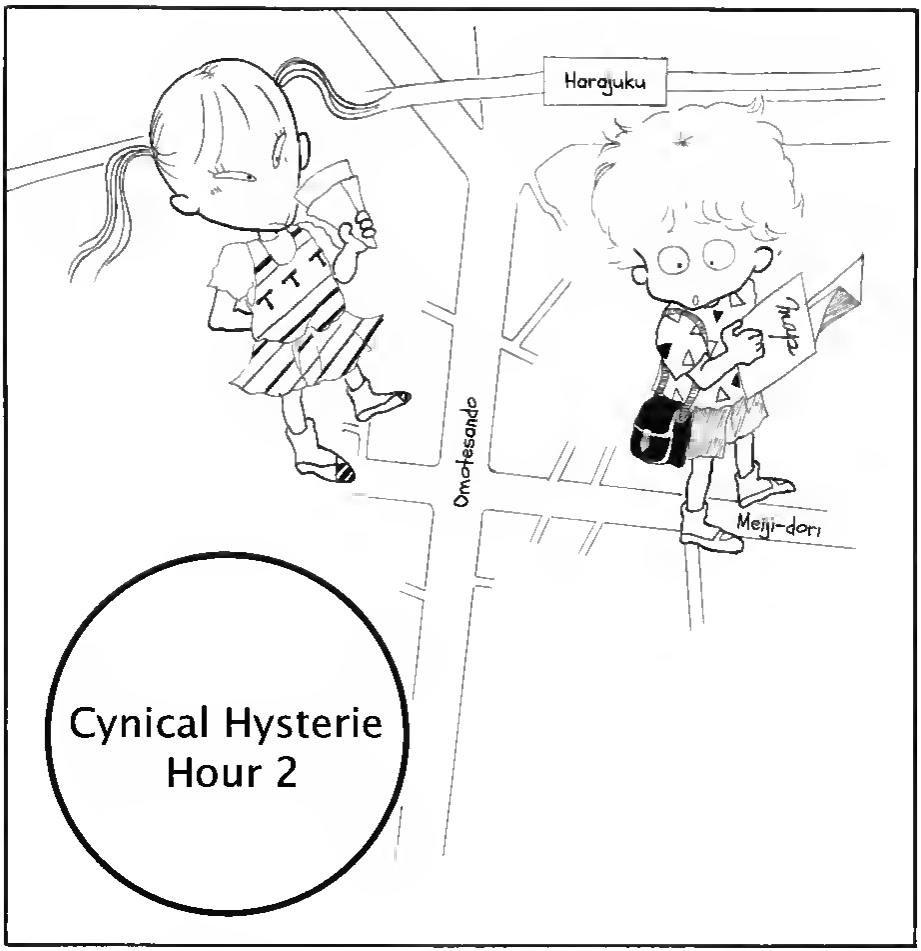
Spain?
Ankara
What about Turkey?
Moscow
What's the capital of the USSR?
Next time, I ask the questions.
Then it's settled!
It's fine, but...
...don't want to go there.
I...
.....
!
Senegal?
Hehe... I crammed it all in last night.
Madrid
Boo...
Flip
Flip
Start!
You have thirty minutes.
Fine with me.
Anywaaay, let's add in our scores from the next Social Studies test, too
It's geography after all
That's not fair.
Ack
Shudder
Shudder
Peek
Hmpf

I'm just erasing.
I wasn't.
Would you quit shaking my desk?
Playing innocent
Rub
Rub
Rub
Would you quit?
Ah!
Bump
.....
Why are you talking during the test!?
You two!
But i..
From this line it's my side of the desk. Don't cross it.
Ooh, a fight
Kiriko, get the answers yourself.
Kiriko keeps talking to me.

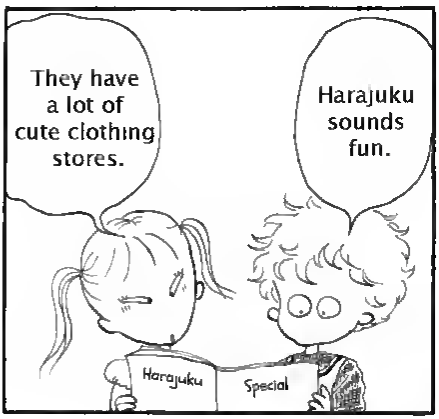
I'm such a wimp ...
I know, I'll write it in my diary.
THUD
I need to release my frustration!
I hate that Tsuneko!
.....
I was worried so I came over.
I'm coming in.
Why did you leave without me?
It's Tsuneko
Oh.
Kirikoo-oooo
Oops!
...with roses on them...
At my house, we have slippers ...
.....
These are like old-lady slippers.
.....
Uh-huh.
I'll go get us some juice.
That was close...
?
Shuffle

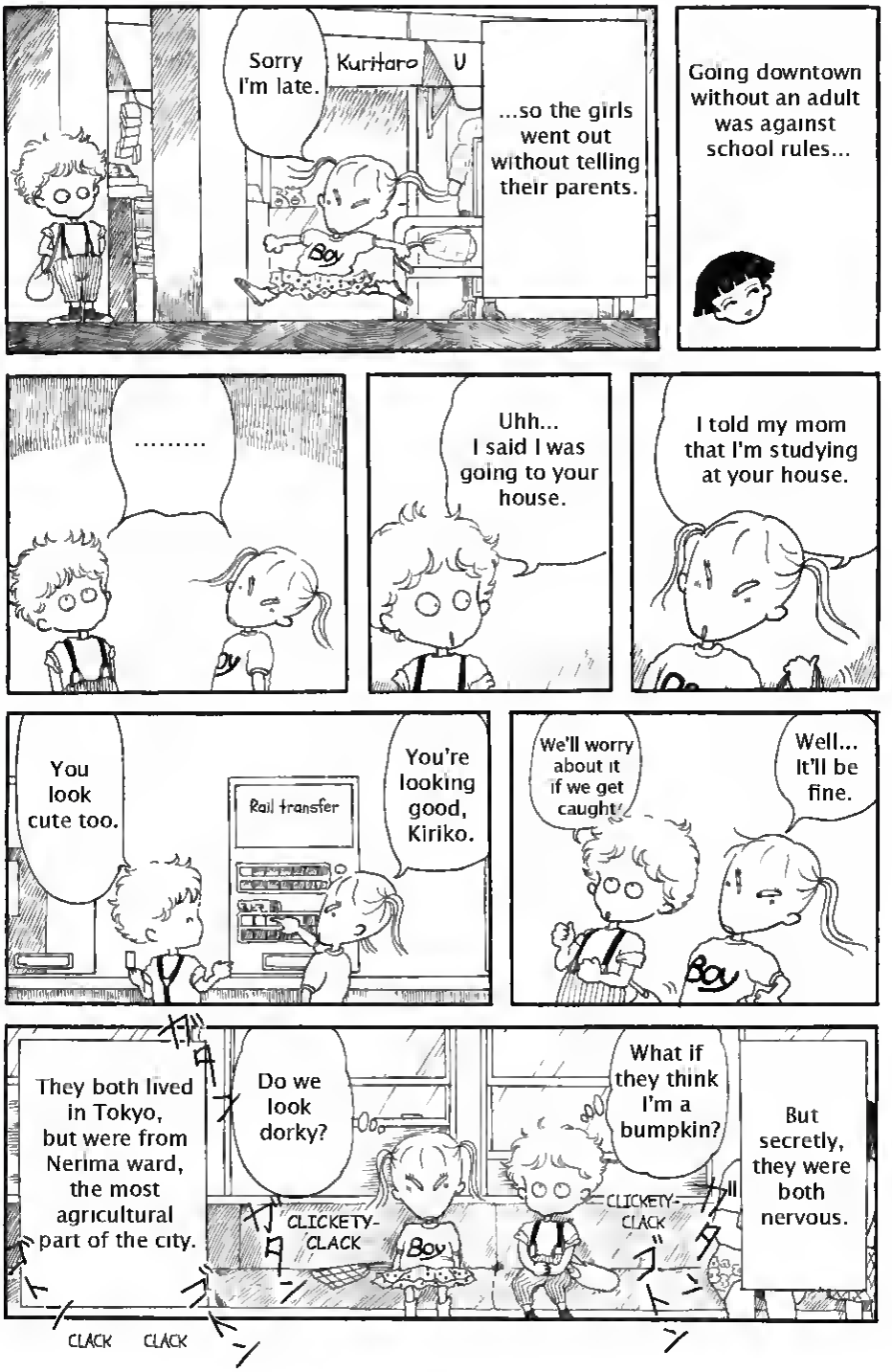

I'll just take a peek.
She hid her diary.
What's this?
Kiriko's Diary
Sneak
.....
Tsuneko, here you go...
How dare you look at my...
Sniff
My diary!
Huh!?
What's this!?
GRR
Kiriko!
MM DD
I thought you were my best friend!
WAA-AHH-HH
That's not the point here. What about privacy...?
Sniff
Jun.7 Don't think i'll be going on that trip with Tsuneko.
Jun.5 Tsuneko is a pain Worried about the future.
Uh-oh.
We were gonna go on that trip together, Kiriko...
We...
private things ..
Hic
Sniff

I'm sorry.
It was my fault.
Hey .. Don't cry.
.....
Tsu... Tsuneko.
WAAAHHHH
WAAAHHHH
Uhh..
Oh no..
This is not juice!
It's not called juice unless it's 100% fruit juice.
Why am I apologizing?
.....
Ooo.
Hic
Crying does it every time.
Sniffle
Hic
Sniff
Sniff
June 10 (Tue)
I'll never take a trip with Tsuneko
Better write this down.
She even found the tests I hid...
Oooo
.....
...
Later
15
22


Harajuku
Omotesando
Meiji-dori
Map
Cynical Hysterie
Hour 2

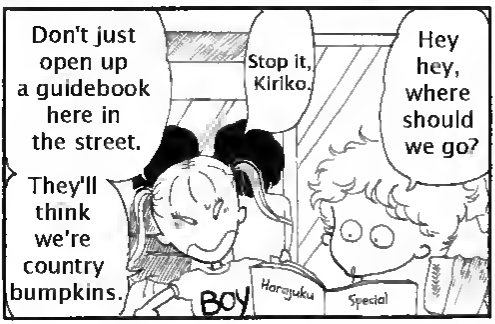
Wanna go?
Yeah, let's go.
I wanna go.
I want to go there.
Spec
City

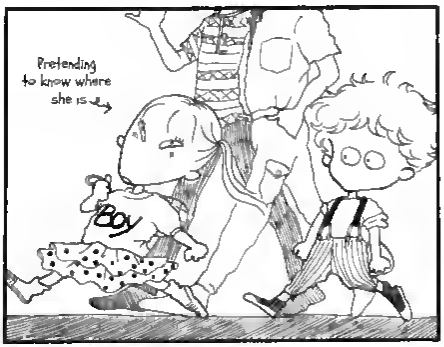

They have a lot of cute clothing stores.
Harajuku sounds fun.
Harajuku
Special

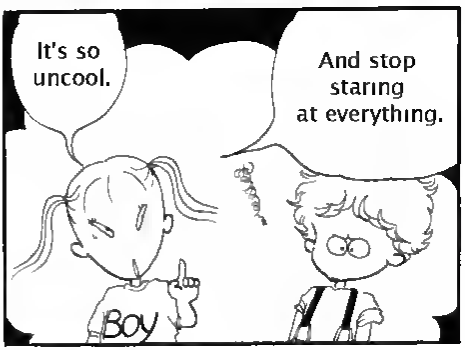

Sorry I'm late.
Kuritaro
U
Boy
...so the girls went out without telling their parents.
Going downtown without an adult was against school rules...
.....
Uhh... I said I was going to your house.
I told my mom that I'm studying at your house.
You look cute too.
Rail transfer
You're looking good, Kiriko.
We'll worry about it if we get caught!
Well... It'll be fine.
Boy
They both lived in Tokyo, but were from Nerima ward, the most agricultural part of the city.
Do we look dorky?
CLICKETY-CLACK
Boy
What if they think I'm a bumpkin?
CLICKETY-CLACK
But secretly, they were both nervous.
CLACK
CLACK

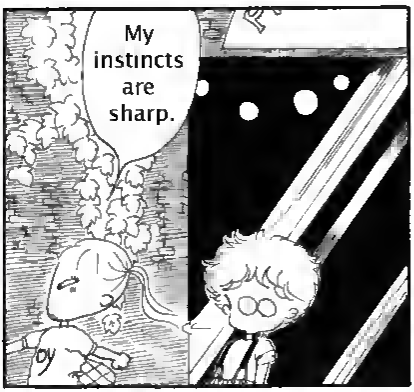
It's so crowded.
Wow!
The two went to Takeshita-dori first.

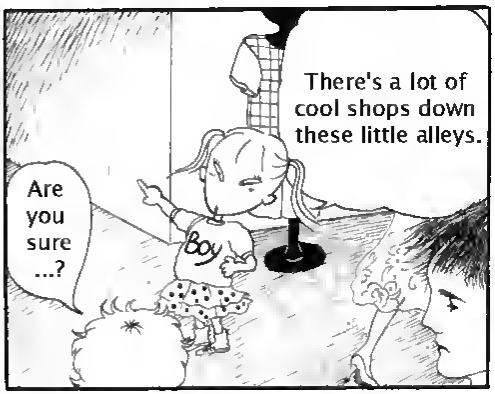
HARAJUKU ST.
Hara-juku
We finally made it.
We're here
Boy
5th
Nervous

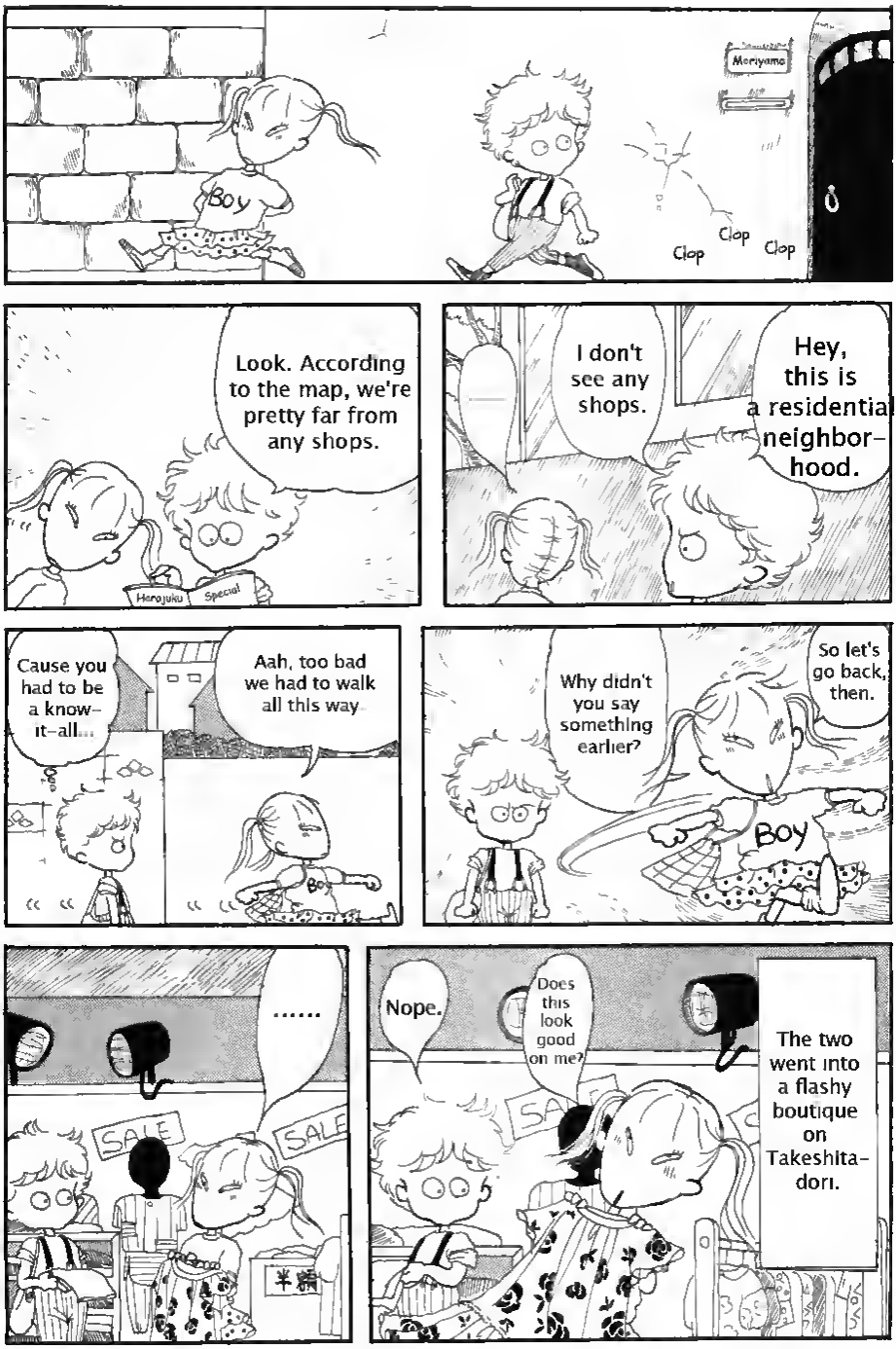

Don't just open up a guidebook here in the street.
They'll think we're country bumpkins.
Stop it, Kiriko.
Hey hey, where should we go?
Boy
Harajuku
Special

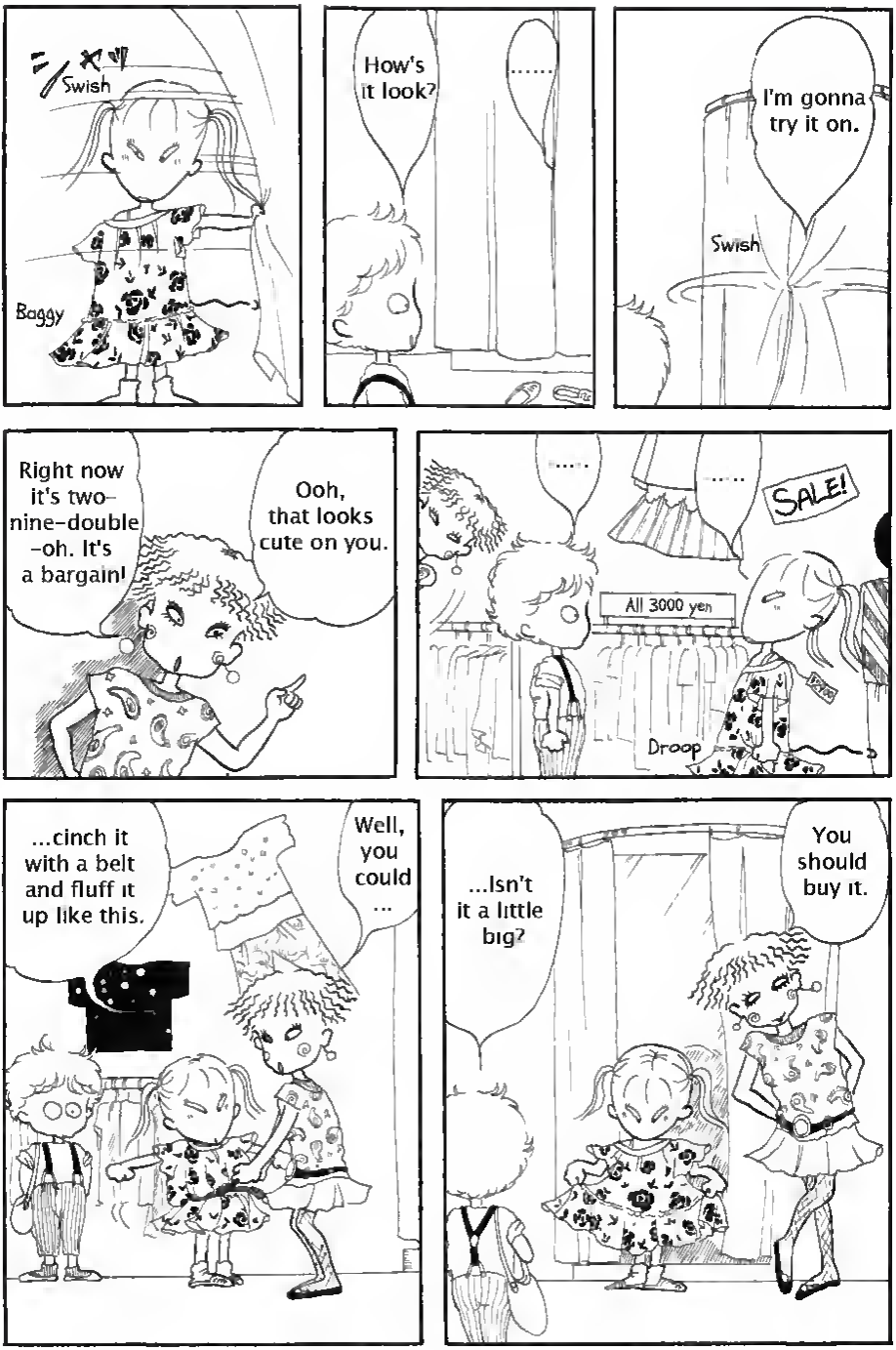

Pretending to know where she is
Boy

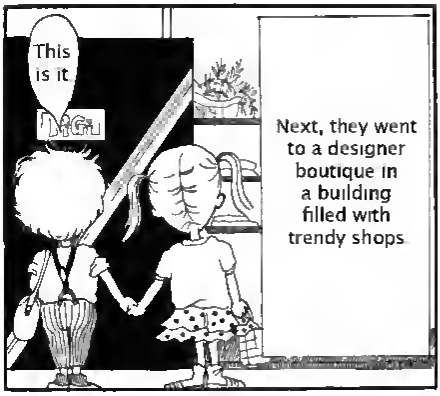

It's so uncool.
And stop staring at everything.
Boy

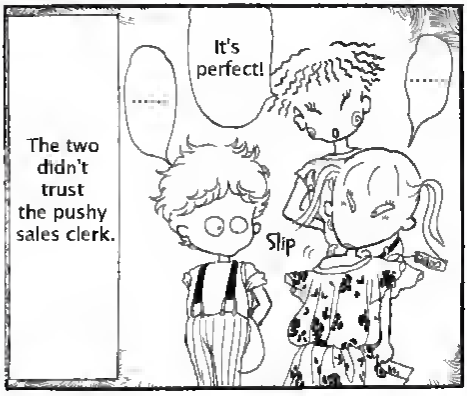

My instincts are sharp.
oy


There's a lot of cool shops down these little alleys.
Are you sure ...?
Boy

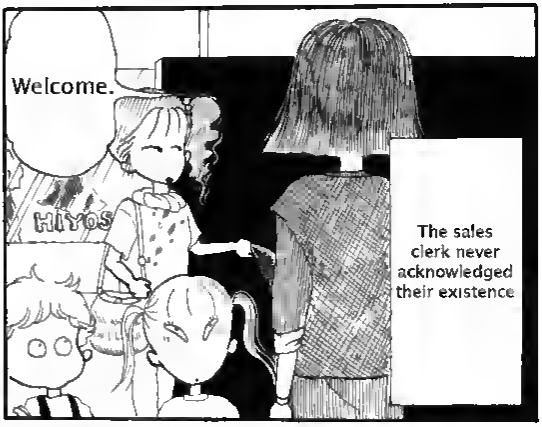

Boy
Moriyama
Clop
Clop
Clop
Look. According to the map, we're pretty far from any shops.
Harajuku Special
I don't see any shops.
Hey, this is a residential neighbor-hood.
Cause you had to be a know-it-all...
Aah, too bad we had to walk all this way.
Boy
Why didn't you say something earlier?
So let's go back, then.
Boy
.....
SALE
SALE
Nope.
Does this look good on me?
The two went into a flashy boutique on Takeshita-dori.


Swish
Baggy
How's it look?
.....
I'm gonna try it on.
Swish
Right now it's two-nine-double-oh. It's a bargain!
Ooh, that looks cute on you.
.....
.....
SALE!
All 3000 yen
Droop
...cinch it with a belt and fluff it up like this.
Well, you could ...
...Isn't it a little big?
You should buy it.


This is it.
Next, they went to a designer boutique in a building filled with trendy shops.


The two didn't trust the pushy sales clerk.
It's perfect!
.....
.....
Slip

That's a really nice color on you.

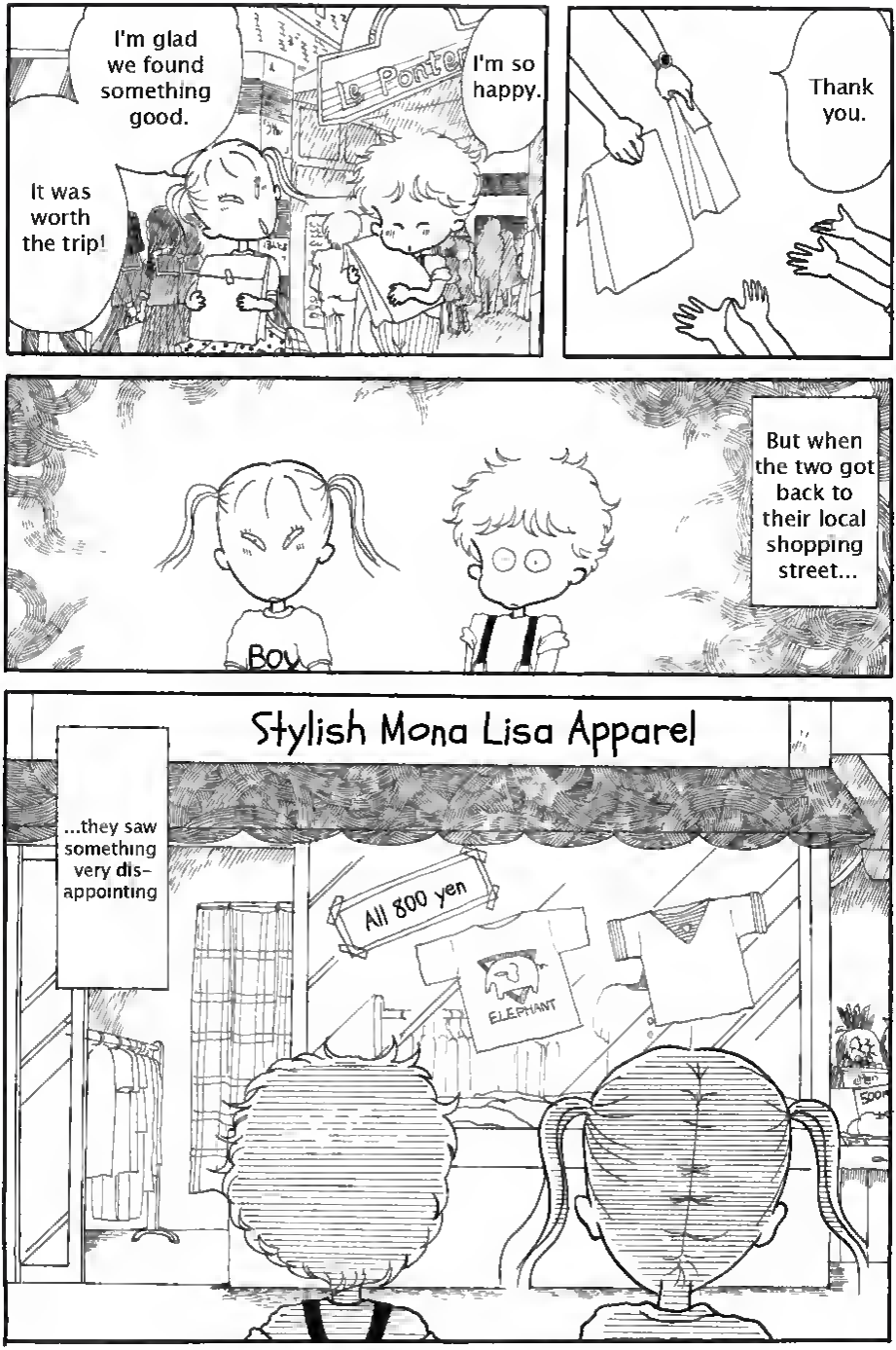

Welcome.
HIYOS
The sales clerk never acknowledged their existence

This place is pricey!
What!?
I want to buy something just to show her.

She doesn't think of us as customers.
With this color here...
Yeah, we were just looking, but...
Uh-huh.
Hey ...
Boy

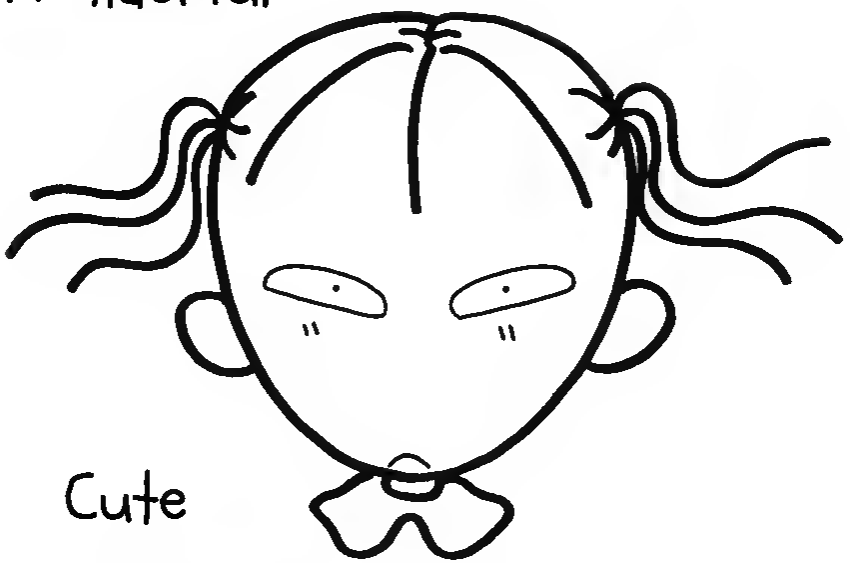
Let me borrow this.
Ah!

3,500 yen!
They were off by one zero.
Huh?!
I'll buy some too.
Oh.
I brought a bill with me.
I can at least buy some socks. These are 350 yen.
Voila
1000
ATELIER ZAB
Dejected
...the only place they felt comfortable entering was a burger shop.
There's one of these in our neighborhood too...
Cheapskates
The dis-heartened girls were starving, but...
That's a cute T-shirt.
Oh! What about that?
ELEPHANT
Let's get it!
All 980 yen
Let's buy something and go home.
Yeah ...
What a let-down.
After all, we came all the way to Harajuku.
Boy


I'm glad we found something good.
It was worth the trip!
I'm so happy.
Thank you.
But when the two got back to their local shopping street...
Boy
Stylish Mona Lisa Apparel
...they saw something very disappointing
All 800 yen
ELEPHANT

Introduction of Charactors No.1 TSUNEKO

Wonderful



Cute

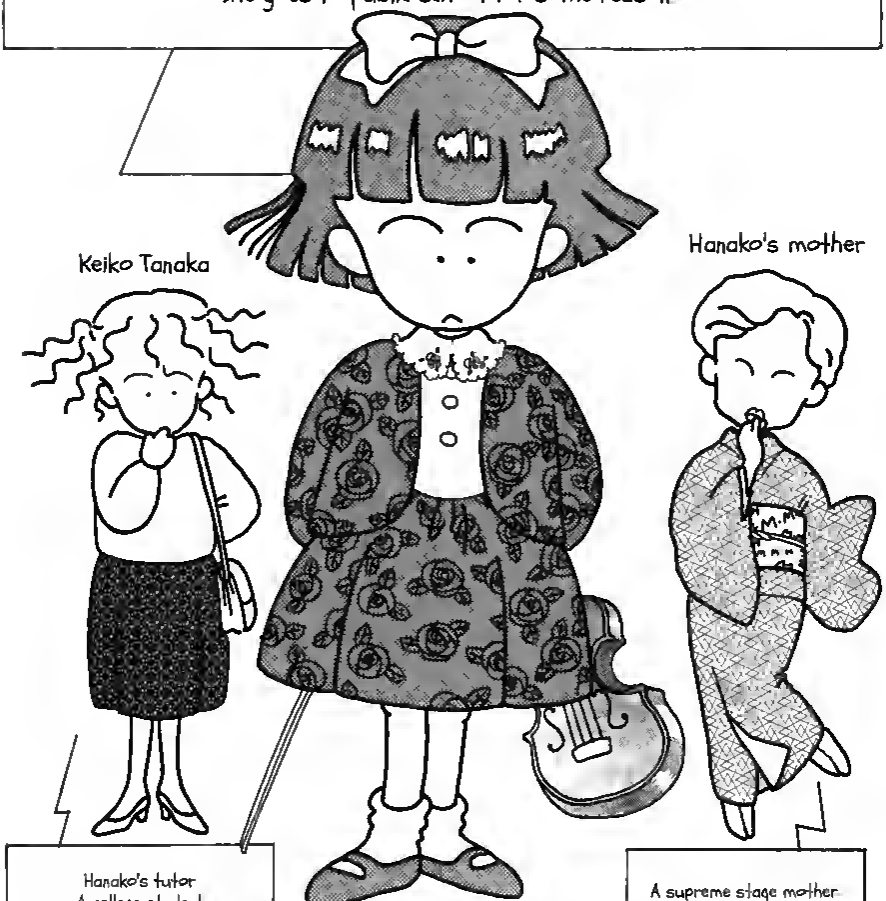
Well-mannered

Although she is known to be self-centered, mean, and flaky, she is delusional and believes she is cute and popular.

She wants to be a TV celebrity when she grows up. She has a lot of faith in her own potential.

Introduction of Characters No.2 HANAKO

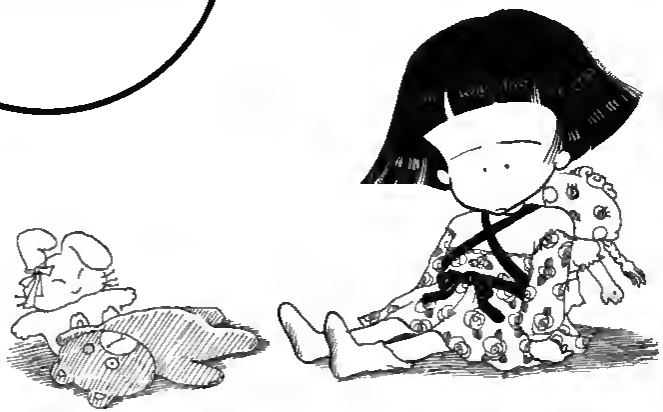
Hanako Sakurakoji: The only daughter of the aristocratic Sakurakoji family
She takes every kind of lesson and is devoted to becoming a global celebrity All of her clothing is custom-made
She goes to public school for some reason



Hanako's tutor
A college student
She wanted to become a teacher, but lost confidence in herself after teaching Hanako

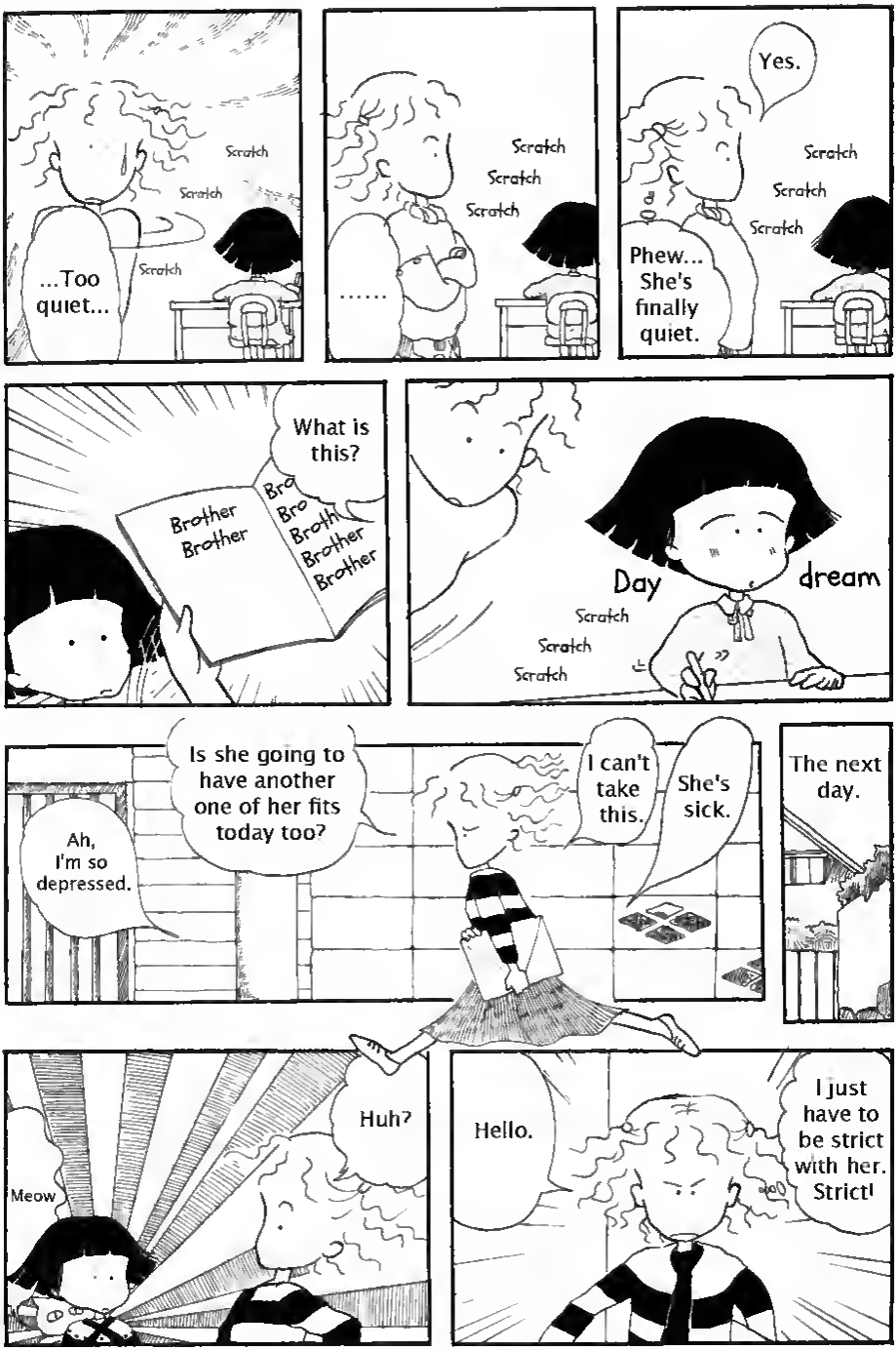
A supreme stage mother
She would do anything to see her daughter become famous.
But she hasn't done anything yet

Magical Mystery Hour 1



All alone
A sister.
Yes.
So... Do you have any brothers or sisters?
Yay!
.....
18...
But she's 18.
I could.
Can I borrow her?
Aww...
Then open your book to page 50.
Or a little brother
I want a little sister.
Mumble Mumble
Haha, didn't think so.
Never mind.
Hanakooo!

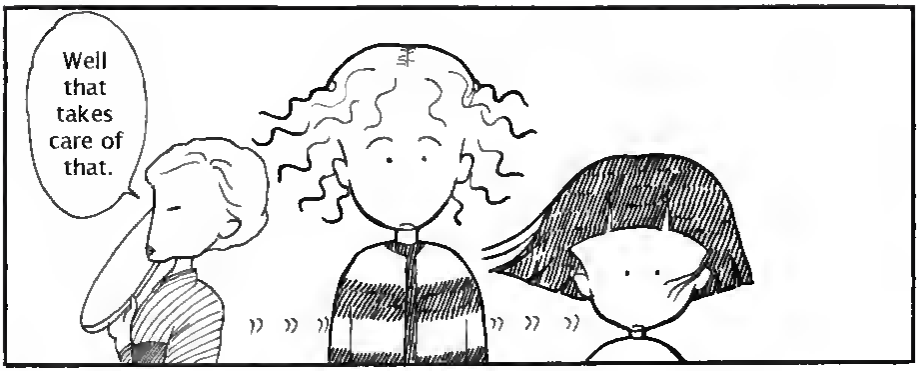
...This is a math problem...
You know
If I had a little sister, I would be so nice to her.
Math
I would give my little sister more oranges.
She only gets three?
Yoshiko has five oranges. Her little sister has three oranges ...
I want a little sister!
Ugh!
.....
Takeshi and his little brother ...
Hanako, calm down.
There, there
Let's move on to the next one.
You don't have to do the problem.
Should we study Japanese? Kanji drills?
Little brother!


...Too quiet...
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch
.....
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch
Yes.
Phew... She's finally quiet.
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch
What is this?
Brother Brother
Bro Bro Broth Brother Brother
Day dream
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch
Ah, I'm so depressed.
Is she going to have another one of her fits today too?
I can't take this.
She's sick.
The next day.
Meow
Huh?
Hello.
I just have to be strict with her. Strict!

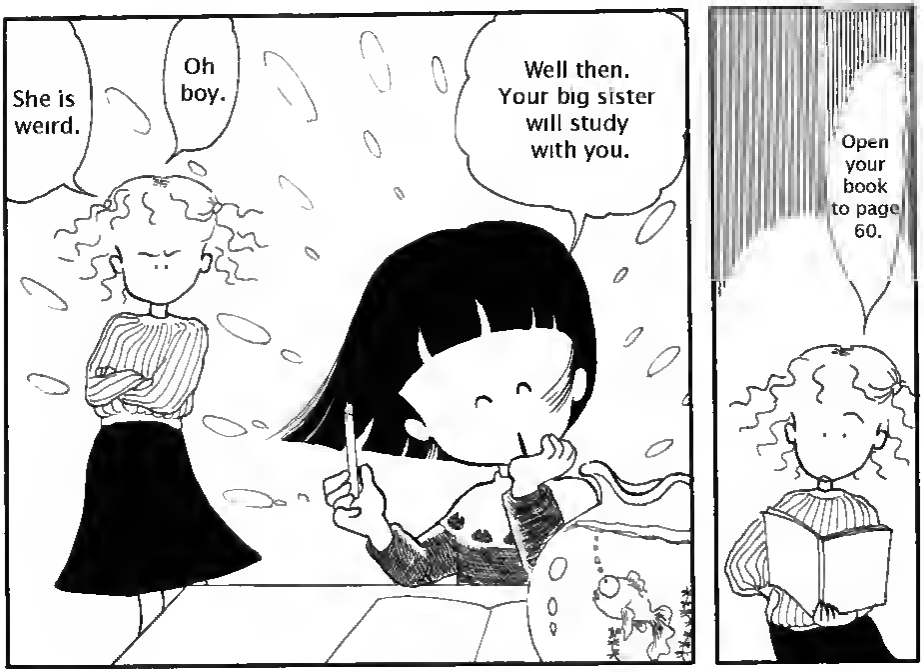
Hey meanie
Put the cat down. It's time to study.
This is my little brother here.
Hehe♡
Why do you have a cat on your back?
Isn't he cute?
.....
Meow
No?
No.
Listen ...
Okay, fine. You can keep the kitty next to you.
Yeesh
...an only child?
Why am I...
Dark cloud
Uhh...
If we study hard, we'll make it into Tokyo University!
Alright! You ready to start studying?
Meow
Tokyo Univ...

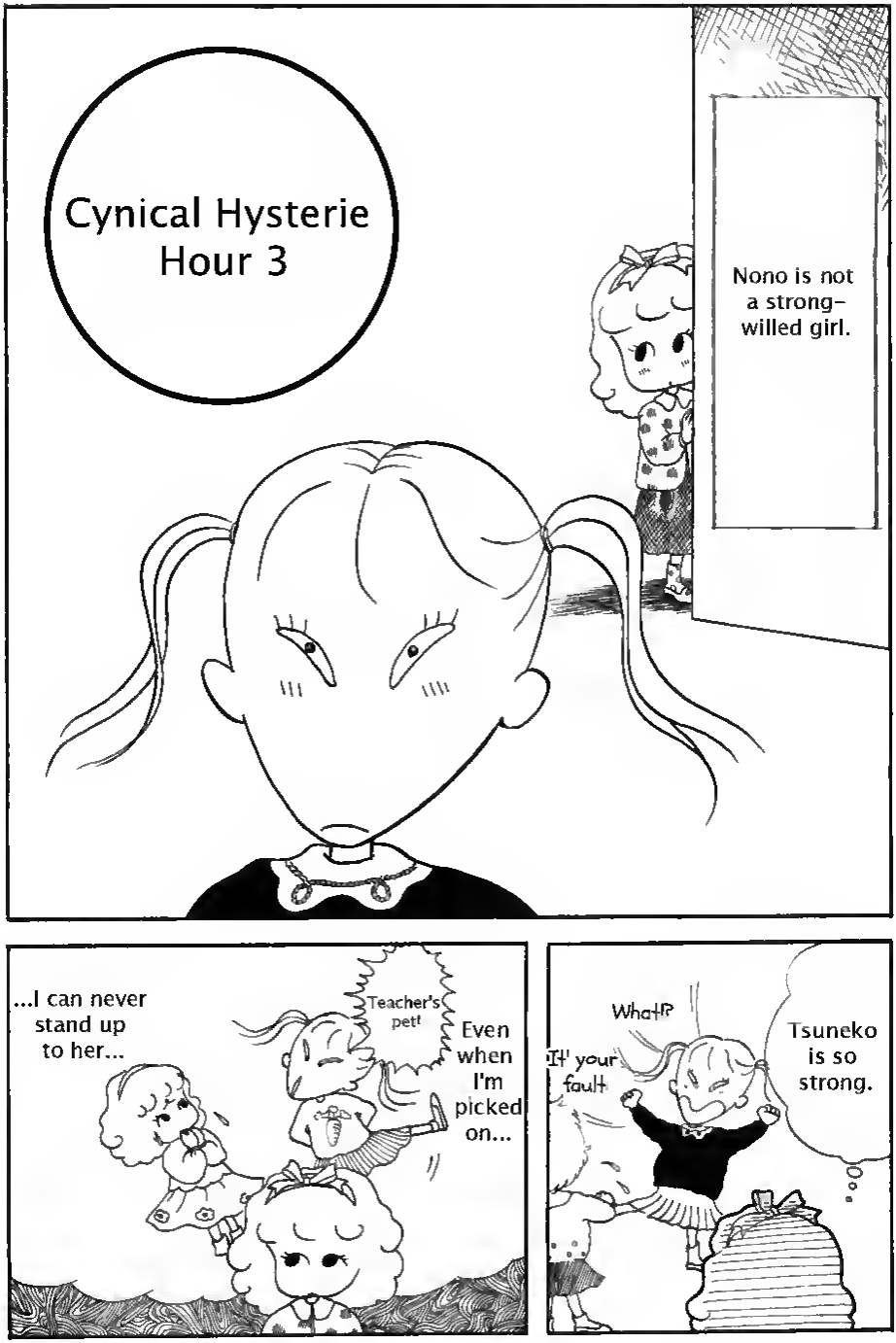
You're doing good today.
Uh-huh.
You got all the answers right for once.
$\frac{12}{2+4}=2$
$\frac{5}{65}\times13=1$
That's wonderful.
I'm trying to be a good big sister!
Clap
Clap
Keep it up.
She's really into it
My little brother wouldn't want a stupid sister, would he?
Just pretending the cat is her little brother gets her to work this hard.
I guess she really wanted a little sister or brother.
Heart
Pang
Hanako is studying in such a good mood.
A cat!!
Oh my!

I will not have a mixed breed cat in this house.
Out of the question.
If you really want a cat, then get a Persian or a Siamese.
Oh what to do.
But if I say that, Hanako'll lose trust in me.
Say something, Miss Keiko.
But I like this cat.
I'm just the hired help.
Uh... Huh.
Meow
Oh.
Jump
Meow


Well that takes care of that.

Cats don't grow very attached, do they?
Heeeere kiiity!


She is weird.
Oh boy.
Well then. Your big sister will study with you.
Open your book to page 60.


Cynical Hysterie
Hour 3
Nono is not a strong-willed girl.
...I can never stand up to her...
Teacher's pet!
Even when I'm picked on...
What!?
It' your fault
Tsuneko is so strong.

.....
This doesn't bode well.
...and shy too...
I'm a cry-baby...
scaredy cat...
.....
I felt someone watching me.
Twitch
Twitch
What's wrong?
Huh!?
I'm going to be strong like Tsuneko.
I've made up my mind.
Little Girl

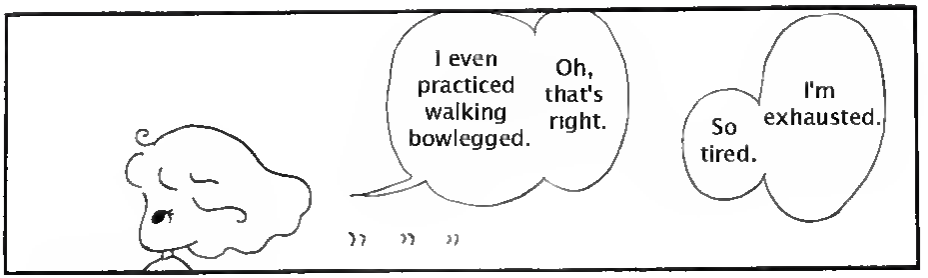
Tsuneko was bowlegged and took wide strides
I'll try to act like Tsuneko.
Maybe I'm imagining things.
Stare
You're walking crooked.
Uh
Why?
Nono, what's wrong with your legs?
It might make me look stronger.
I'll be bowlegged too.
Meeee!
Me!
Yes!
Anyone know the answer?
I'll try walking bowlegged at home first.
She seems to answer with her gut
Incorrect
It's number 2.
Then, number 3.
Okay, Tsuneko.
Tsuneko always raises her hand in class.
Yes!

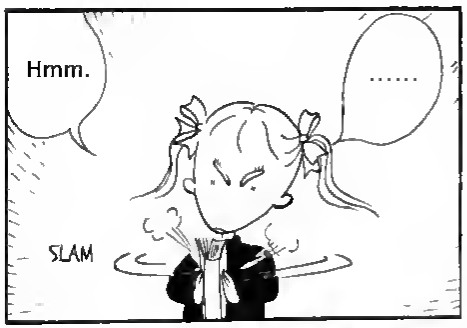
She plays innocent when it's convenient for her.
Ignore
Uh.
Oh, I see.
"Addendum And she's sly."
Stare
I'm such a wimp I can't even raise my hand.
Wow, even when she's wrong she doesn't back down.
But she's harsh on others for their mistakes.
She tries to hide her mistakes
Good-bye, weak old self.
Now I just have to put it into action.
SHING
I've got a lot of info.
Could it be...
.....
No, someone is watching me.
.....

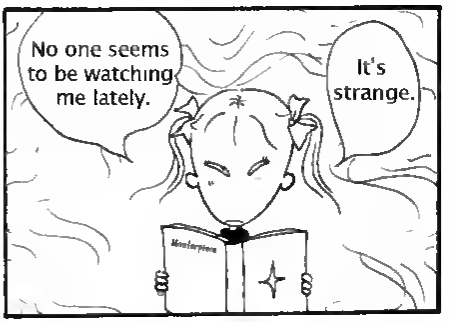
GWAHAHAHAHA
I think someone has a crush on me.
Someone's in love with me?
What?
Kiriko, you're just jealous.
HEEE
HEEE
I told you 'cause I thought you're my friend.
I'm gonna die.
...do?
What should I...
Blush
.....
We're through
No!
.....
Nono, did you hurt your hand?
I'm just behaving badly!
Morning!
SLAM

Ah!
Twitch
Twitch
Want me to kick you?
Tsuneko, did you hurt your foot?
You always open the door with your foot.
... everyone.
Morning
SLAM
Why are you copying me?
Hey.
Gulp
N
Silence
...
Hanako.
Aha ho ha
Oh, you're so funny
Twist
She decided to act more like a girl.
What's wrong?
She compli-mented her.
Tsuneko's being nice
...
It looks good on you
You changed your hair.
Not me. I'd get my clothes dirty.
Tsuneko, what about you?
Whoever wants to play dodge ball, touch my finger.
...
N

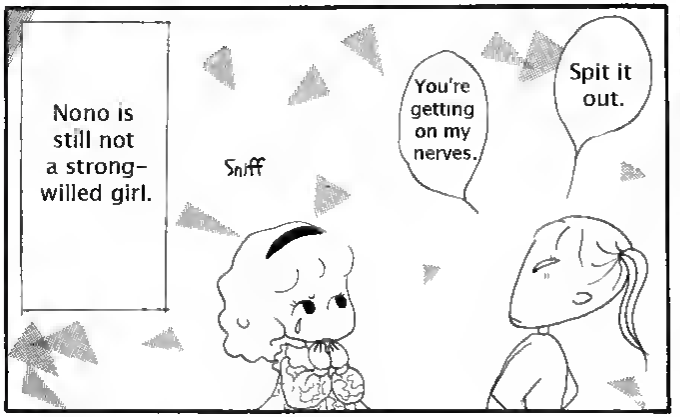
Yeah!
N
Hey...
C'mon
We don't have
enough
people.
Grab
Stop
pretend-
ding.
Dumbfounded
N
Ouchie!
Whaaaa?
I don't want
my underwear
showing.
Yeah.
Wanna
play on
the bars?
N
It's no use
copying Tsuneko.
She's all wishy-
washy now.
N
I'm done
with this.
N
I'm going
to read.
Swiff
.....


I even practiced walking bowlegged.
Oh, that's right.
So tired.
I'm exhausted.


Hmm.
.....
SLAM

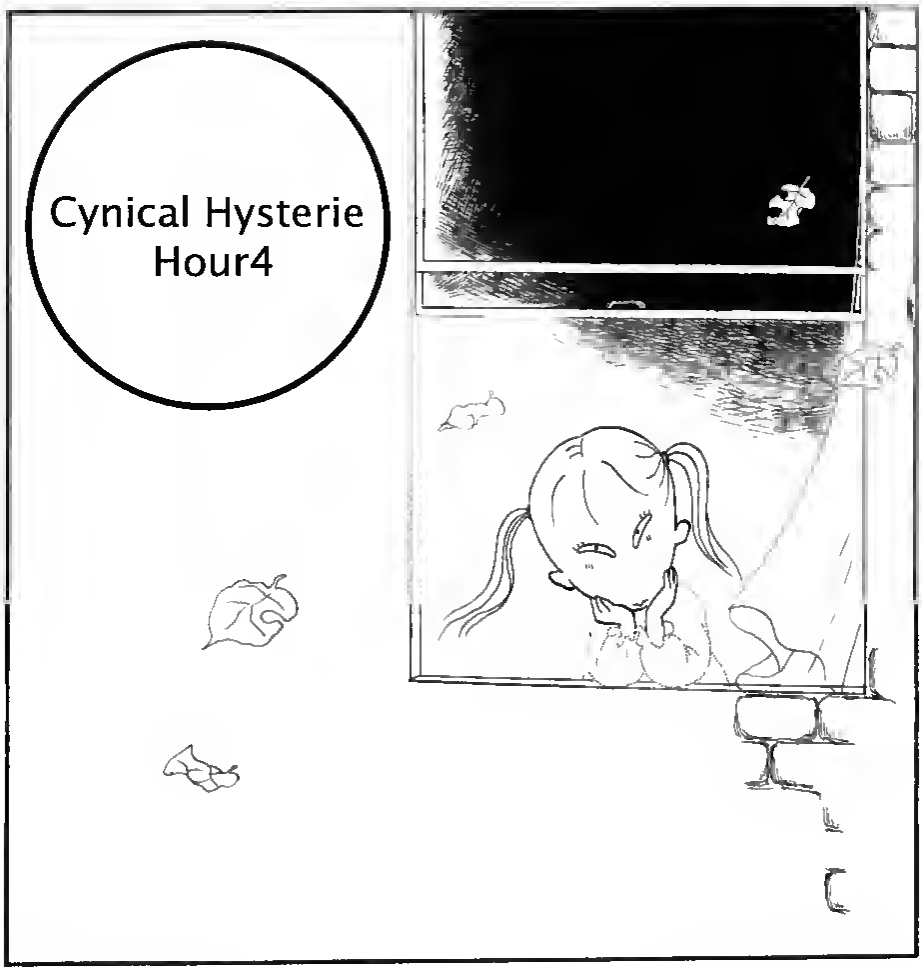

No one seems to be watching me lately.
It's strange.

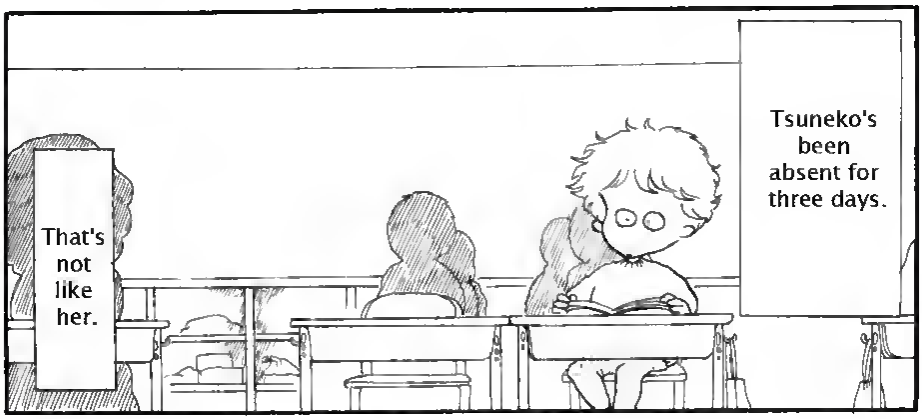
Got a problem!?
What!?


Nono is still not a strong-willed girl.
Sniff
You're getting on my nerves.
Spit it out.

Um ...
Uh ...

Cynical Hysterie Hour4

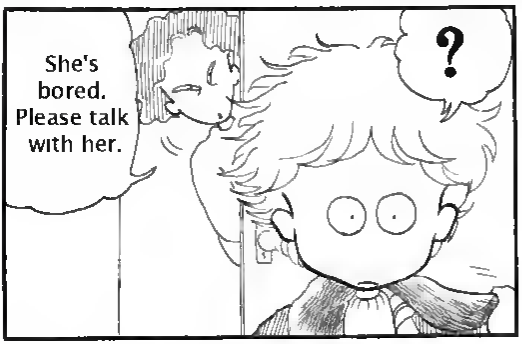


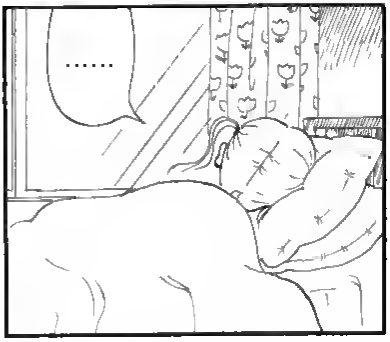


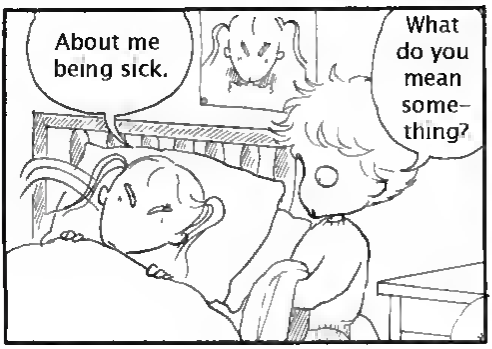
Please come in, Kiriko.
Thank you for bringing them to her.
44

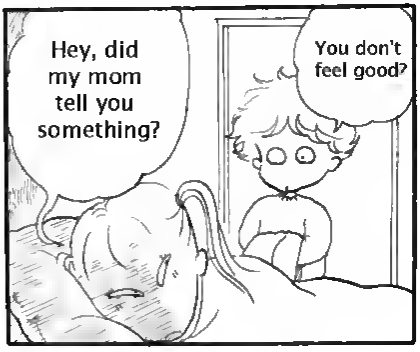
I brought Tsuneko her homework sheets.
Hello.

Kiriko's here.
Tsuneko


She's bored. Please talk with her.
?


.....

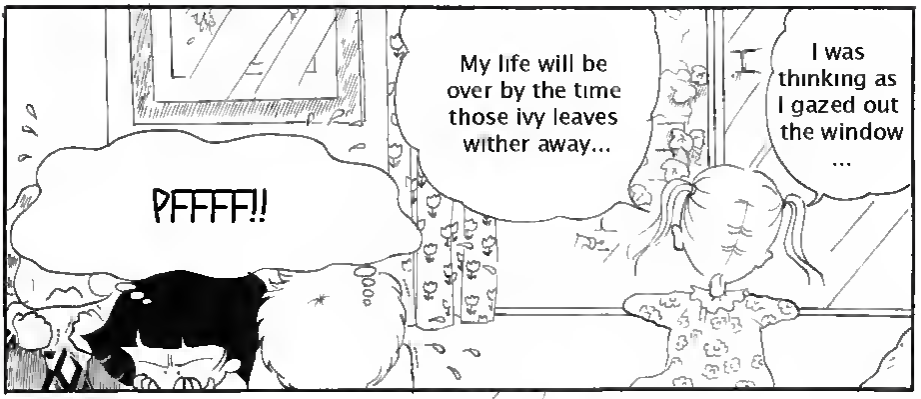

About me being sick.
What do you mean some-thing?

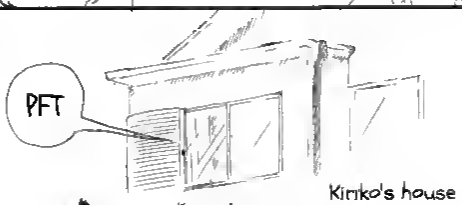

Hey, did my mom tell you something?
You don't feel good?

I have never been laid up like this before.
That's what my mom says, but it's not that simple. At all.
Fatigue
I have no appetite and I'm so weak.
You've got a cold and upset stomach, right?
It's so good.
Munch
Munch
Munch
I'll keep it.
Well, if you brought it just for me.
...
I brought you some chocolate to cheer you up.
I see... Maybe I should have brought flowers.
I...
...don't think I'm going to get better.
...I'm gonna tell you, Kiriko.
And then,
No appetite? So weak?
Fling

I can just tell.
I think I'm going to die soon.
Huh?
Maybe you just ate too much chocolate.
I have a serious disease.
Now you see, don't you Kiriko?
A nose-bleed!
Ah!
Well, I can't.
Okay, I'm going.
Go away! You don't know the agony I'm in.
God is cruel. I want to live longer!
Um, I think ...
This is bad.
You know, where the main character got sick and then died in the end? That one-
Maybe it was the movie she just saw.
It was so sad
She's acting like a tragic heroine.
...she's so into it
And so...

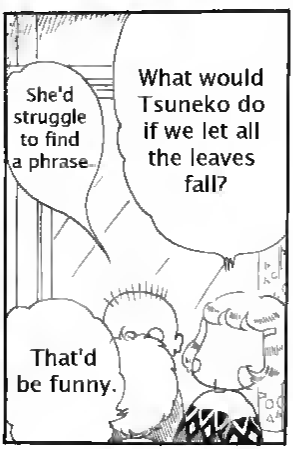
Tsuneko, your friends are here
Hello.
I brought everybody with me.
Tsuneko, how are you?
PFFT
I guess the end must be near...
You brought everyone...
BFFFFT
I won't get upset.
But it's okay.
I feel very calm today.

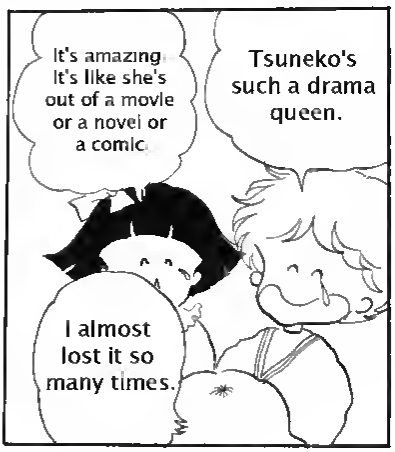

I was thinking as I gazed out the window ...
My life will be over by the time those ivy leaves wither away...
PFFFF!!

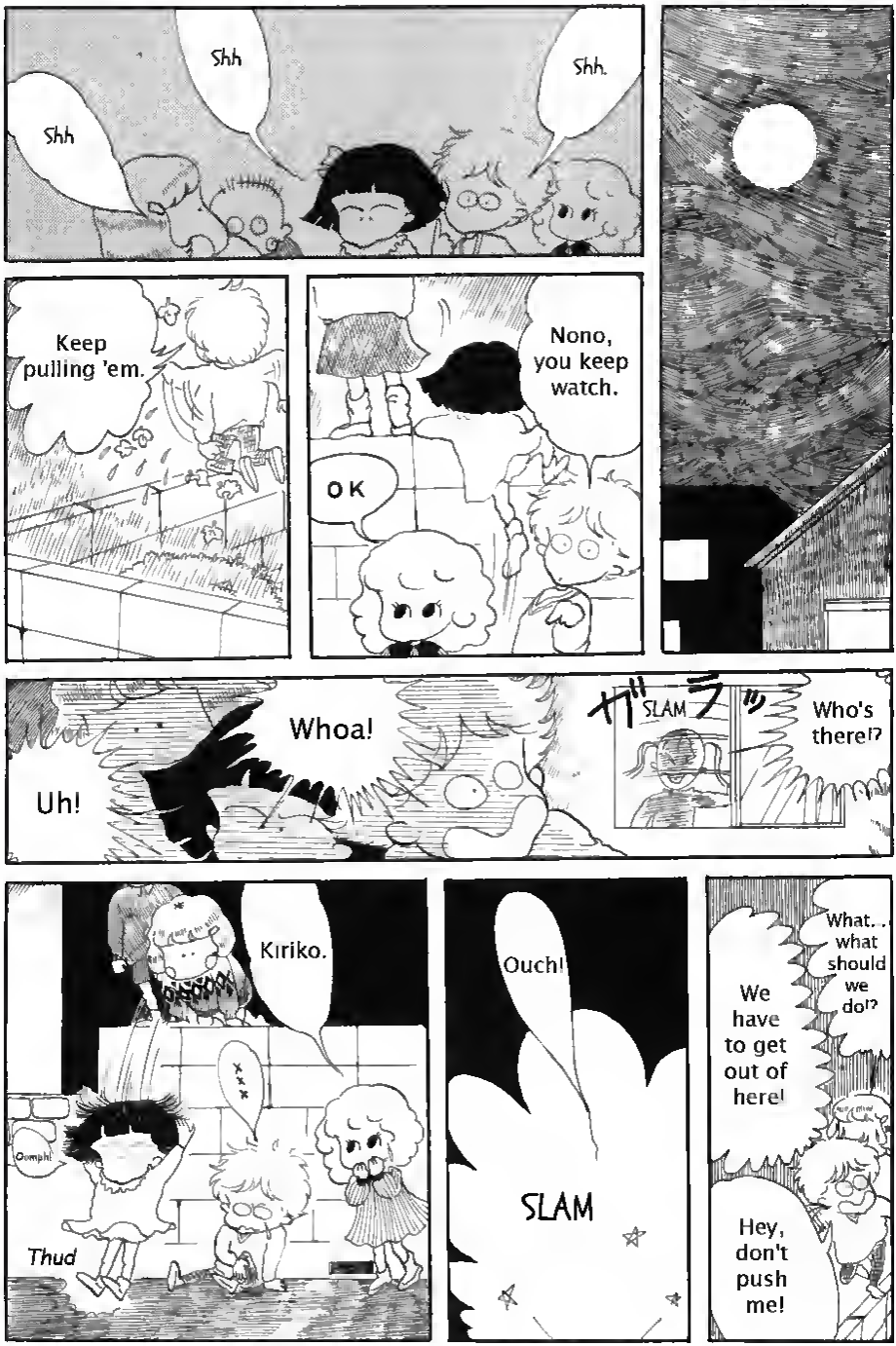

PFT
Kinko's house

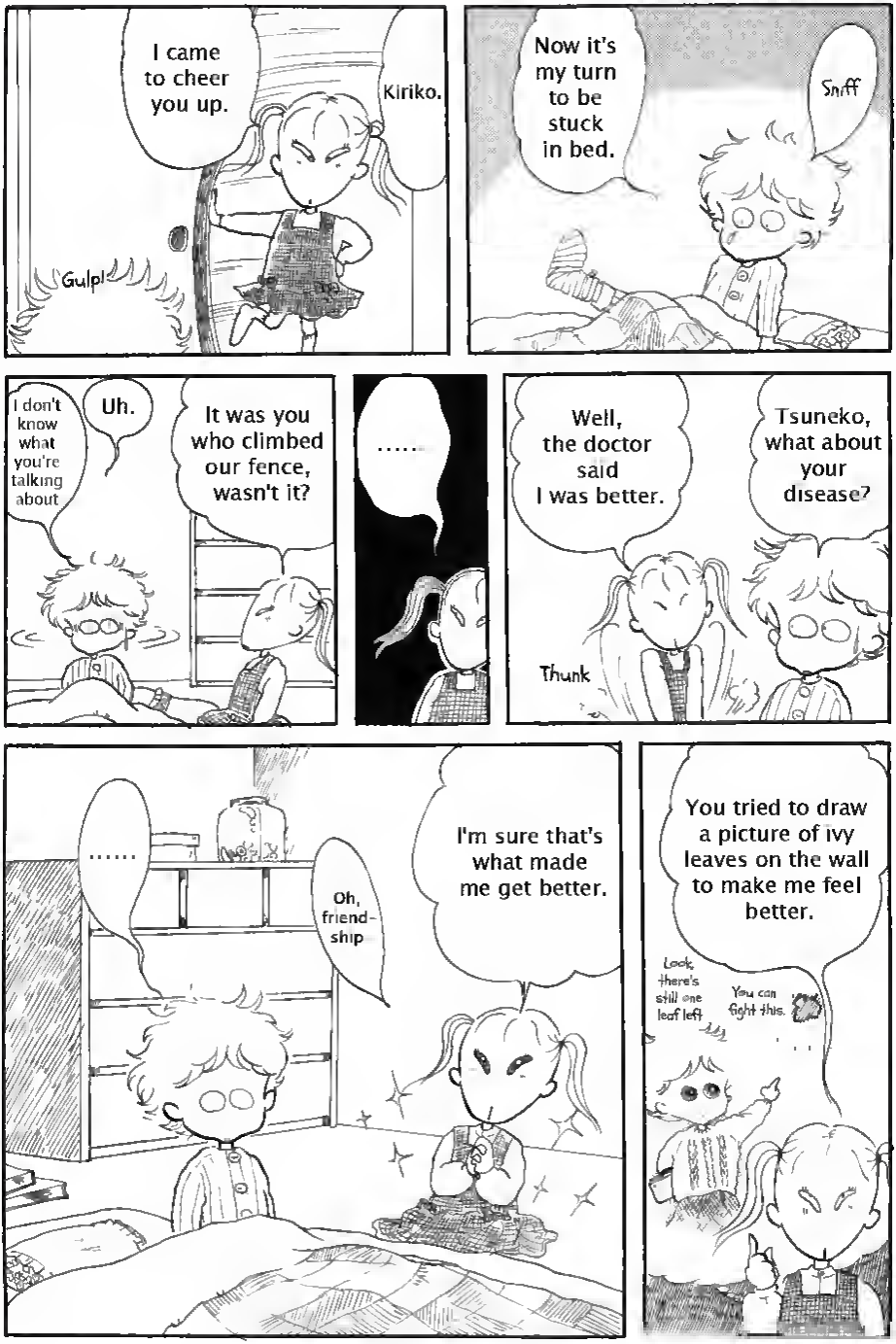
ぶわっはははは
BWAHA HAHA HAHA

Why don't we sneak over to Tsuneko's tonight and pick off all the leaves?

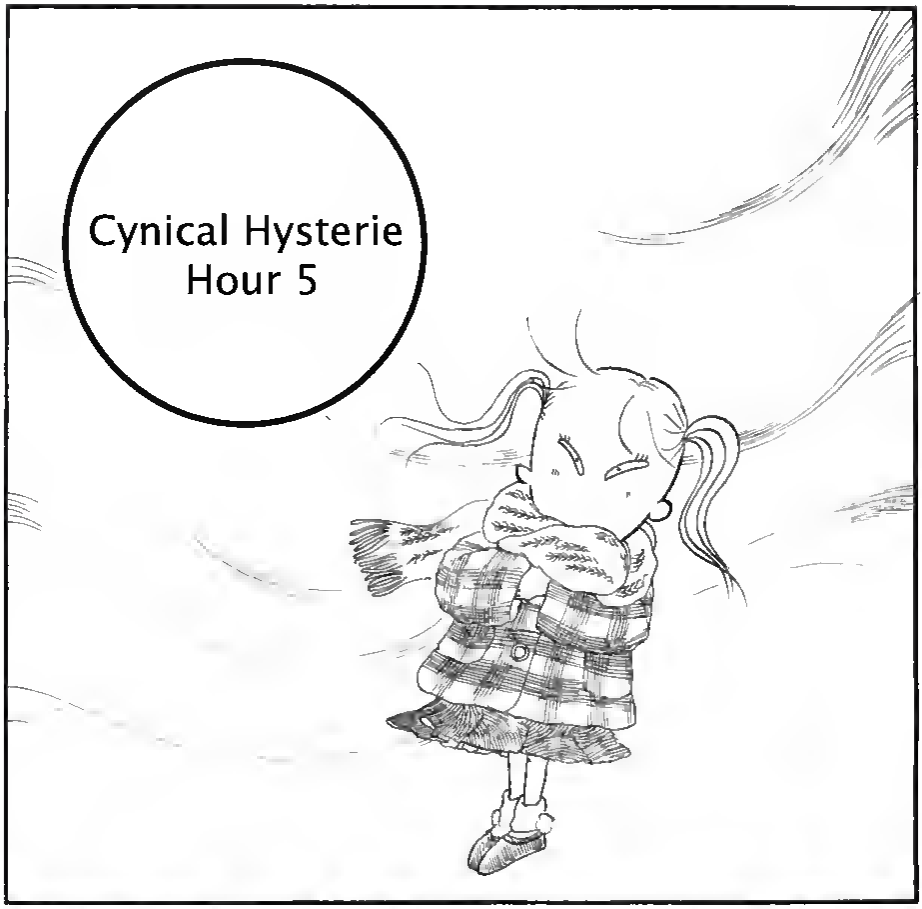

What would Tsuneko do if we let all the leaves fall?
She'd struggle to find a phrase.
That'd be funny.

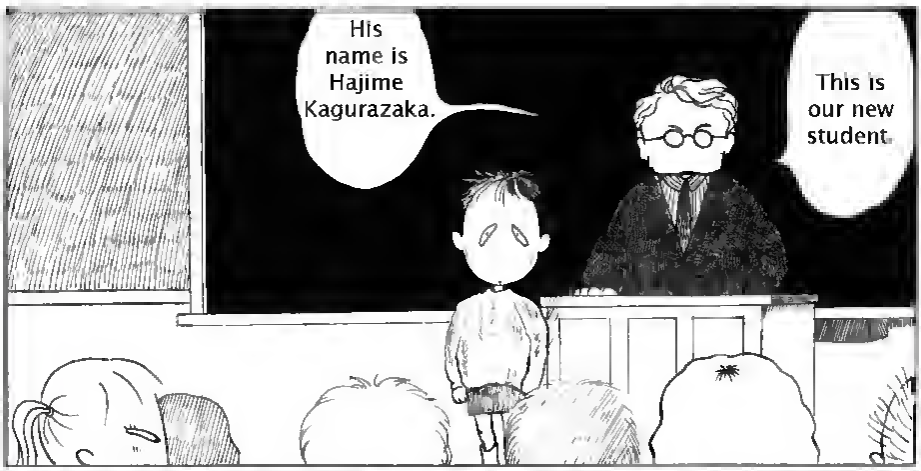

Tsuneko's such a drama queen.
It's amazing. It's like she's out of a movie or a novel or a comic.
I almost lost it so many times.


Shh
Shh
Shh.
Keep pulling 'em.
Nono, you keep watch.
OK
Whoa!
Uh!
SLAM
Who's there!?
Kiriko.
Oomph!
Thud
Ouch!
SLAM
What... what should we do!?
We have to get out of here!
Hey, don't push me!


I came to cheer you up.
Kiriko.
Gulp!
Now it's my turn to be stuck in bed.
Sniff
I don't know what you're talking about
Uh.
It was you who climbed our fence, wasn't it?
.....
Well, the doctor said I was better.
Tsuneko, what about your disease?
Thunk
.....
Oh, friend-ship
I'm sure that's what made me get better.
You tried to draw a picture of ivy leaves on the wall to make me feel better.
Look, there's still one leaf left
You can fight this.

Cynical Hysterie Hour 5

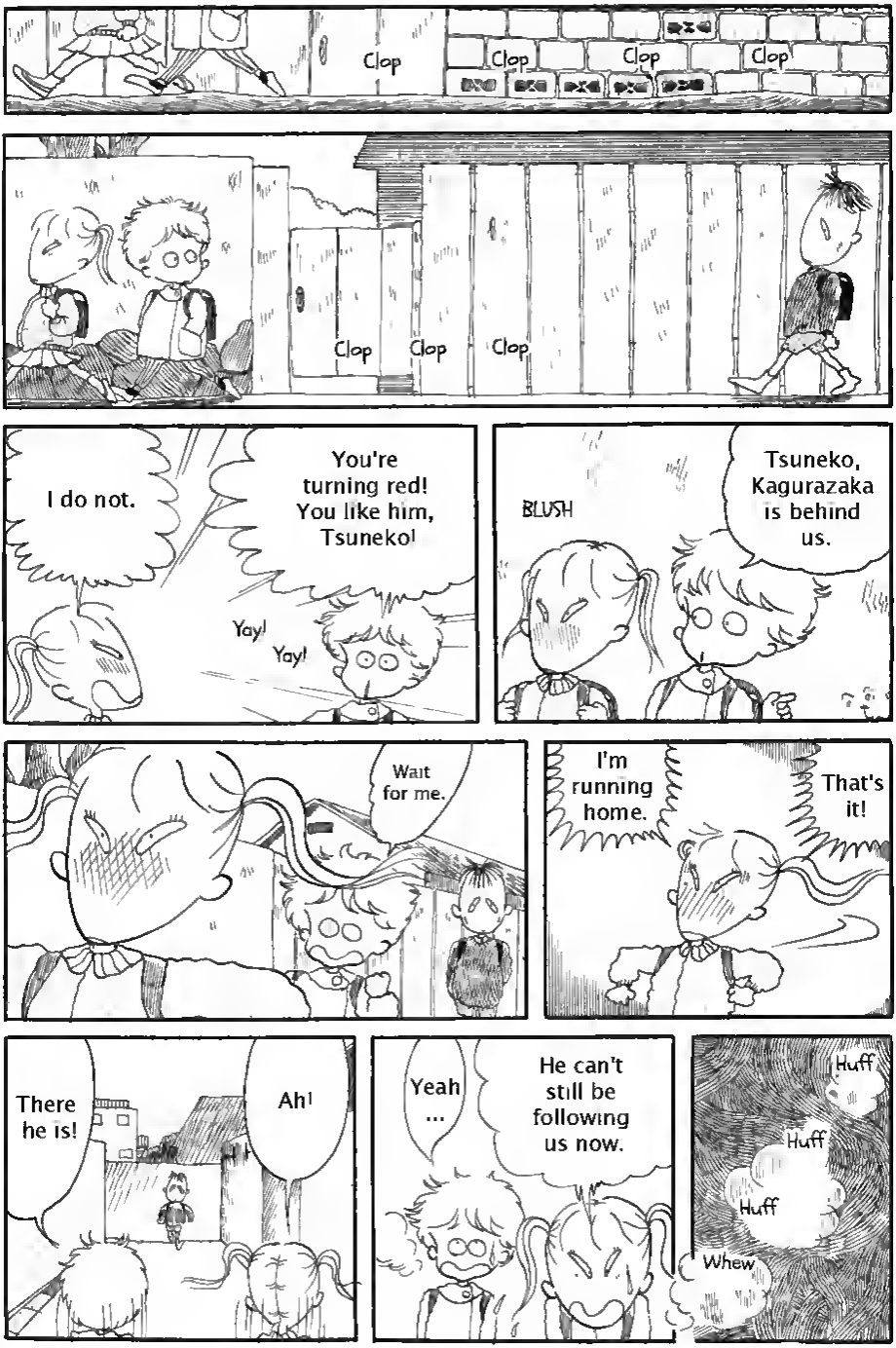


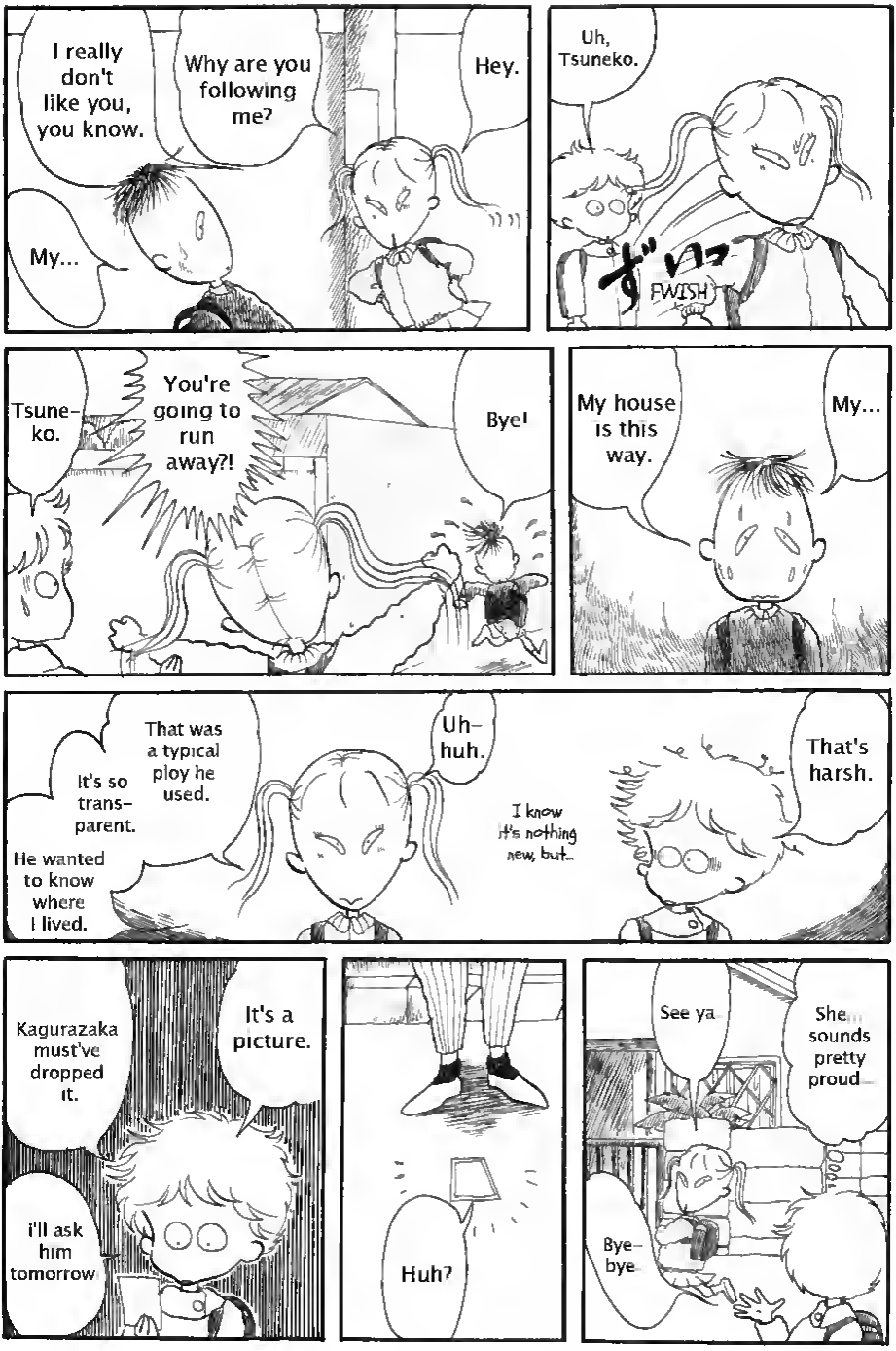


I've seen him somewhere before.
Uh, no-thing.
What's the matter?
What?
There's something about his face I don't like.
Stare
Okay.
Your desk is over there.
Hmm
i don't like him.
Really?
He stared at me.
That new kid
Kiriko
Yes, teacher
Now, do the bars one by one.
FWEEET

Hup!
Wow.
...really good at the bars.
I'm...
Stare
Flip
He must like her.
He's staring at Tsuneko.
Kagura-zaka
How's that!
Hee hee
I don't have any pudding!!
Waah!
Lunch
It's not funny.
Stop it.
Wow!
Huh?

I ate it.
But ...
My pudding.
Give it back.
Sorry
No way!
I think Tsunta said there was some left over and took it.
Yoink
WAH WAH
I can't believe it.
I love pudding.
Ooohh!
If you want it...
!
But I'll eat his pudding.
He's not my type.
Shut up.
That settles it.
Really.
That was nice.

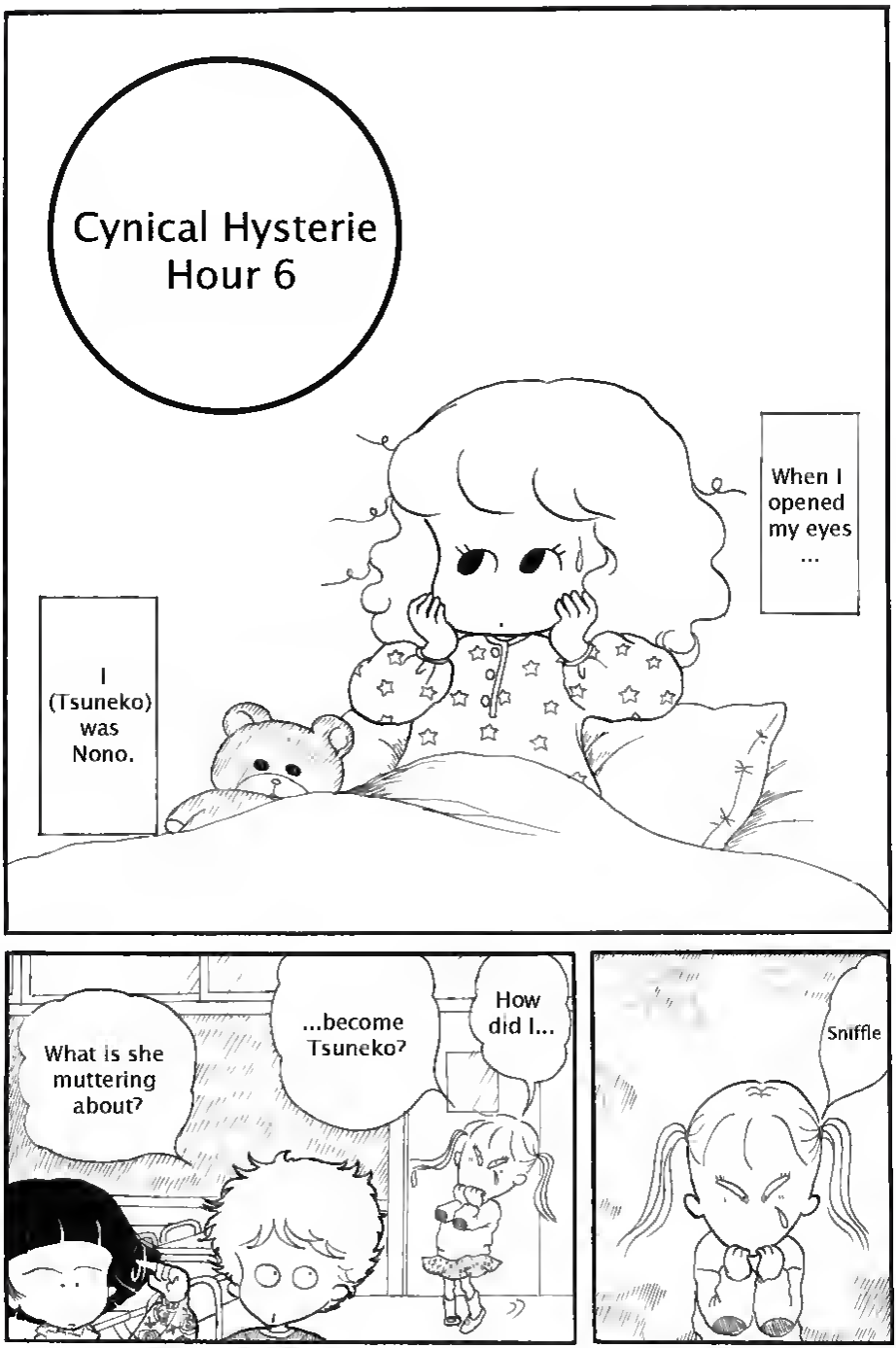

Clop
Clop
Clop
Clop
Clop
Clop
Clop
You're turning red! You like him, Tsuneko!
I do not.
Yay!
Yay!
BLUSH
Tsuneko, Kagurazaka is behind us.
Wait for me.
I'm running home.
That's it!
There he is!
Ah!
Yeah ...
He can't still be following us now.
Huff
Huff
Huff
Whew


I really don't like you, you know.
Why are you following me?
Hey.
My...
Uh, Tsuneko.
ズバッ
SWISH
Tsune-ko.
You're going to run away?!
Bye!
My house is this way.
My...
That was a typical ploy he used.
It's so trans-parent.
He wanted to know where I lived.
Uh-huh.
I know it's nothing new, but...
That's harsh.
Kagurazaka must've dropped it.
It's a picture.
I'll ask him tomorrow
Huh?
See ya
She sounds pretty proud
Bye-bye

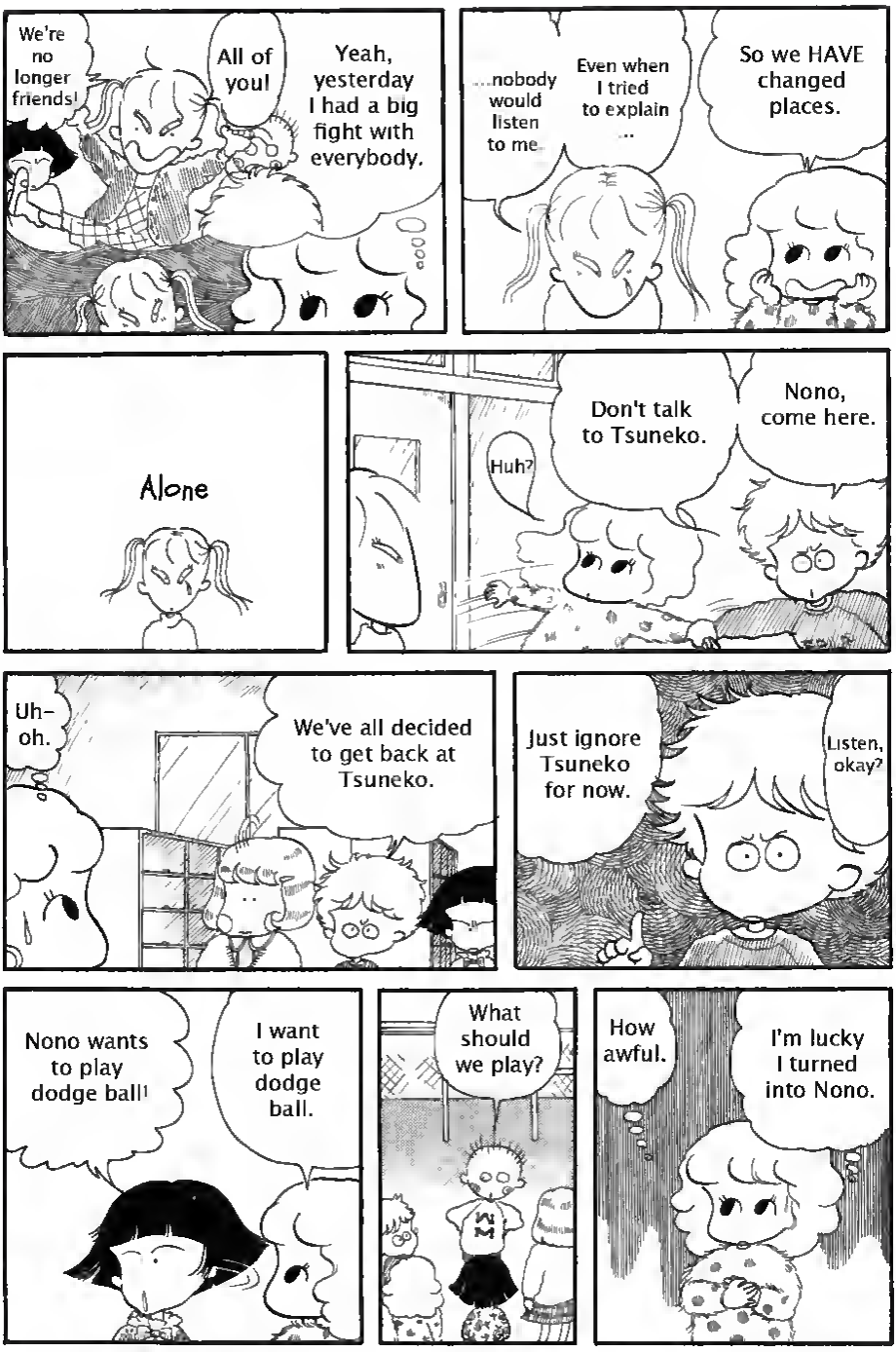
...Kagurazaka has unfortunately changed schools.
It was un-expected, but...
Awwwwww!
The next day
Why did he move?
Teacher.
Yeah...
It must be because Tsuneko was mean to him.
...for his ill sister.
Kagurazaka has moved somewhere with better air...
She looks like Kagura-zaka.
I don't look like her at all.
Kagurazaka dropped it.
Look at this.
Tsuneko reminded him of his little sister.
I get it.
Huh?

Wee
When I first saw Kagurazaka, I thought I had seen him somewhere before.
It was Tsuneko when she did a headstand.
If you turn it upside-down...
But look
It's Tsuneko!
Whoa!
That's why he was always watching her.
So Kagurazaka saw Tsuneko and she reminded him of his sister.
Such beautiful love
between brother and sister
.....
How sweet.
Stare

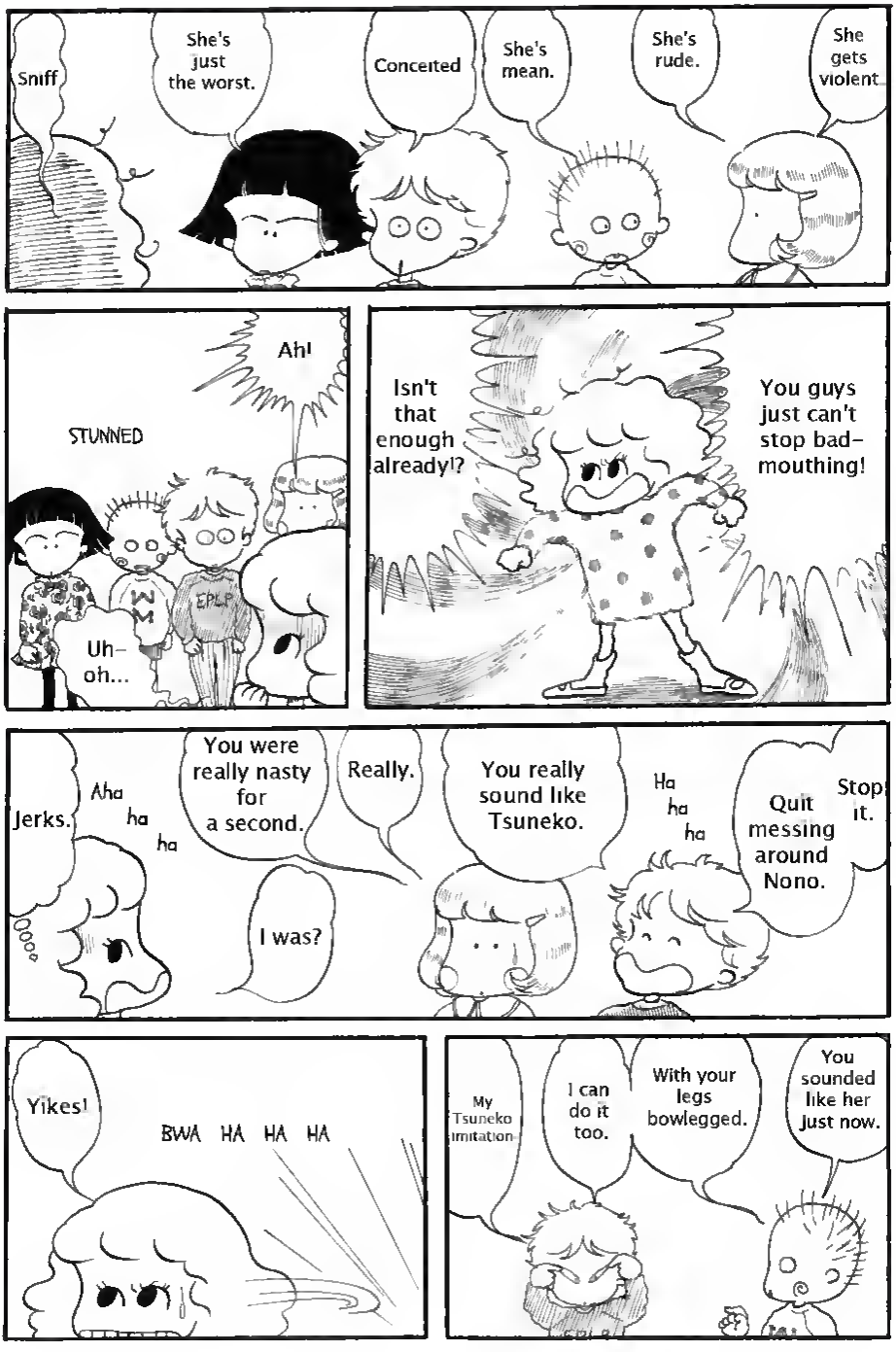
Cynical Hysterie Hour 6

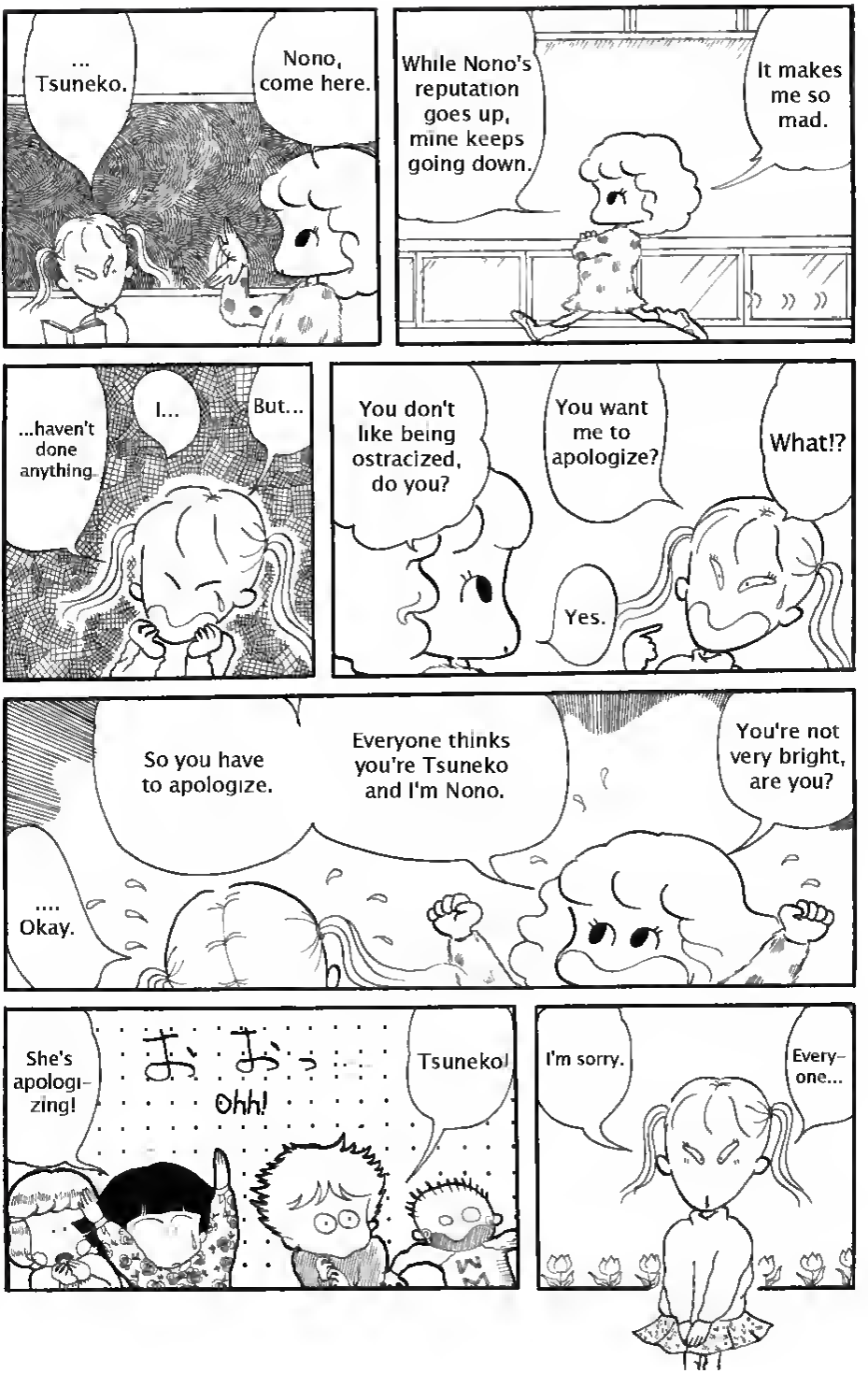


Ignore
I'm really ...
I'm...
Hanako, Kiriko.
But I'm not really Tsuneko ...
But...
Yeah!
.....
Isn't that Tsuneko, who screamed that we were through?
Hm?!
Morning!
ガラッ
SLAM
...Is that you, Tsuneko?
Aren't you really Nono?


We're no longer friends!
All of you!
Yeah, yesterday I had a big fight with everybody.
...nobody would listen to me.
Even when I tried to explain ...
So we HAVE changed places.
Alone
Huh?
Don't talk to Tsuneko.
Nono, come here.
Uh-oh.
We've all decided to get back at Tsuneko.
Just ignore Tsuneko for now.
Listen, okay?
Nono wants to play dodge ball!
I want to play dodge ball.
What should we play?
How awful.
I'm lucky I turned into Nono.

I say dodge ball!
How it usually is.
You're so self-centered.
Okay, it's decided!
If Nono want to play dodge ball, it's fine with me.
Ooh, this is fun.
Seeing myself like that...
...sucks.
But...
Dejected
Uh-uh!
Nope!
No way!!
Huh?!!
Why?
Why don't we forgive Tsuneko?
Hey every-body.
She's a loud-mouth.
She's really self-centered.
SHOCKED
SHOCKED
SHOCKED
SHOCKED
I...
Am I this despised?!


Sniff
She's just the worst.
Conceited
She's mean.
She's rude.
She gets violent.
Ah!
STUNNED
Uh-oh...
Isn't that enough already!?
You guys just can't stop bad-mouthing!
Jerks.
Aha ha ha
You were really nasty for a second.
Really.
I was?
You really sound like Tsuneko.
Ha ha ha
Quit messing around Nono.
Stop it.
Yikes!
BWA HA HA HA
My Tsuneko imitation
I can do it too.
With your legs bowlegged.
You sounded like her just now.


... Tsuneko.
Nono, come here.
While Nono's reputation goes up, mine keeps going down.
It makes me so mad.
...haven't done anything.
I...
But...
You don't like being ostracized, do you?
You want me to apologize?
What!?
Yes.
So you have to apologize.
Everyone thinks you're Tsuneko and I'm Nono.
You're not very bright, are you?
.... Okay.
She's apologi-zing!
お、お、っ...
Ohh!
Tsuneko!
I'm sorry.
Every-one...

I'm a liar and a bully.
And ugly.
Bow-legged.
I was wrong.
Why don't we be friends again?
Tsuneko feels bad too.
That's enough, isn't it?
Every-one.
...I want to slap you.
So I just...
You told me to apologize for everything.
You didn't have to go that far!
Please forgive me.
I'll be more careful from now on.
Tsuneko is being unusually nice today.
Uh-huh.
Yeah.
Stupid.
Tsuneko, what is with you?!
Not exactly.
Sticking up for Tsuneko like that.
But Nono, you're really sweet.

Uhhh!
You're not our friend.
And we just forgave you too!
You're not nice at all.
Don't be mean to me!
Don't be mean to Tsuneko!
Stop it!!
Blink
Gasp!
It was like I was a mean kid!!
What a weird dream!

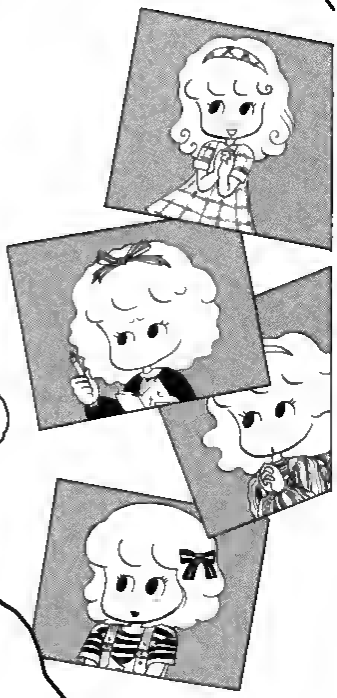
Introduction of Characters No.3 KIRIKO

Kiriko is actually the main character of "Cynical"
Her past is dark with memories of Tsuneko
She thinks she's way cool...
and secretly makes fun of...
...Tsuneko who she thinks is totally uncool
Favorite thing Roller coasters
By the way, she...
has no relation...
...to the author
Their names just happen to be the same

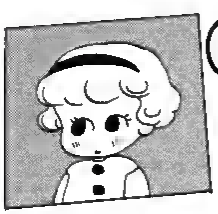
Introduction of Characters No.4 NONO CHAN

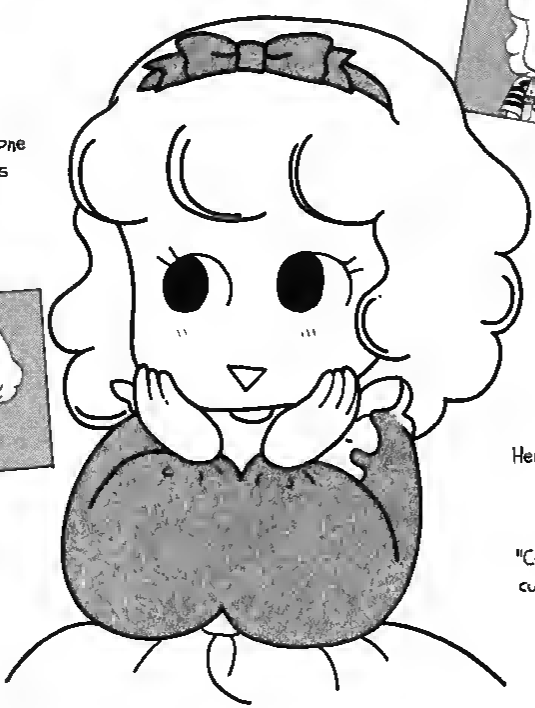
"Sweet inside and out,
loved by everyone at school,
and even helps out at home.
She is astonishing."

"But she's not strong-willed
And according to Tsuneko.."



But Tsuneko is the one
that always makes
her cry





Her slogan

"Cute all the time,
cute everywhere"

Here's to you!
Magical Mystery Hour 2

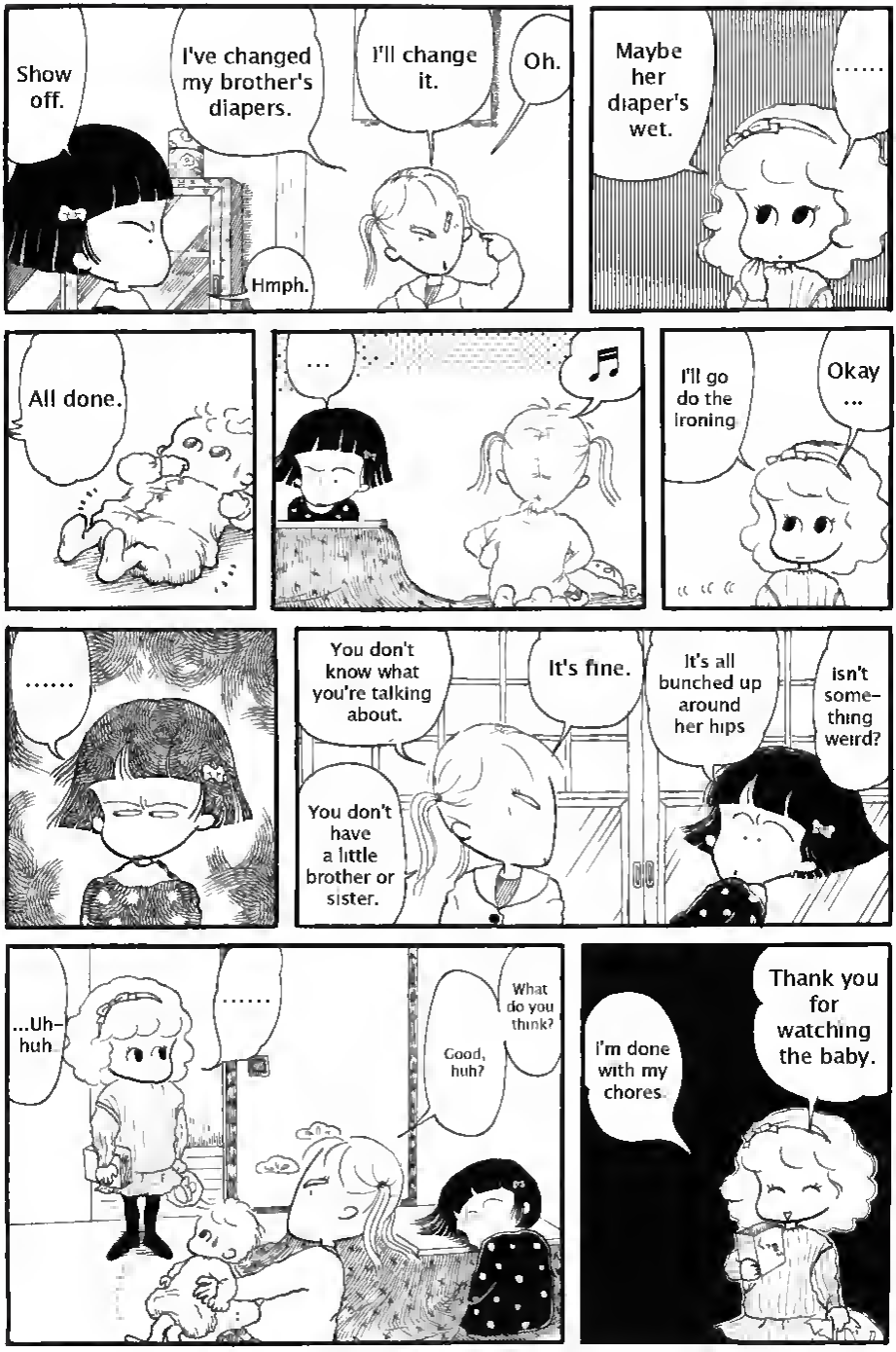
I'll go!
A baby?

Didn't her mom have a baby?
Yeah.
Nono's?
You wanna go see it?

You wanna go to Nono's?
Hey Hanako.

Sorry.
I can't play.
My mom went out and I have to watch the baby.
Oh.
Hanako. Tsuneko.
Baba bub.
Crane
Turtle
We're coming in.
We came to see the baby.
That's fine.
.....
Nervous
Nervous
She's so soft.
Just like a doll.
She's so cute.
Very nervous.
Well, you can watch the baby while i go bring the laundry in.
.....
We'll watch the baby so you go do something Nono.

Boo! A-boo!
Bwa
Gwa
...cute.
She's really ...
Who cares if you laugh?
.....
GWAHAHAHA
Baa!
Boo!
You made her cry.
Aaah.
Uh-oh.
WAH
WAH
Let me hold her too.
The baby won't stop crying.
Nothing!
What's wrong?
Hmph
Shut up!
...made her cry!
Tsuneko-
You made her cry! You made her cry!

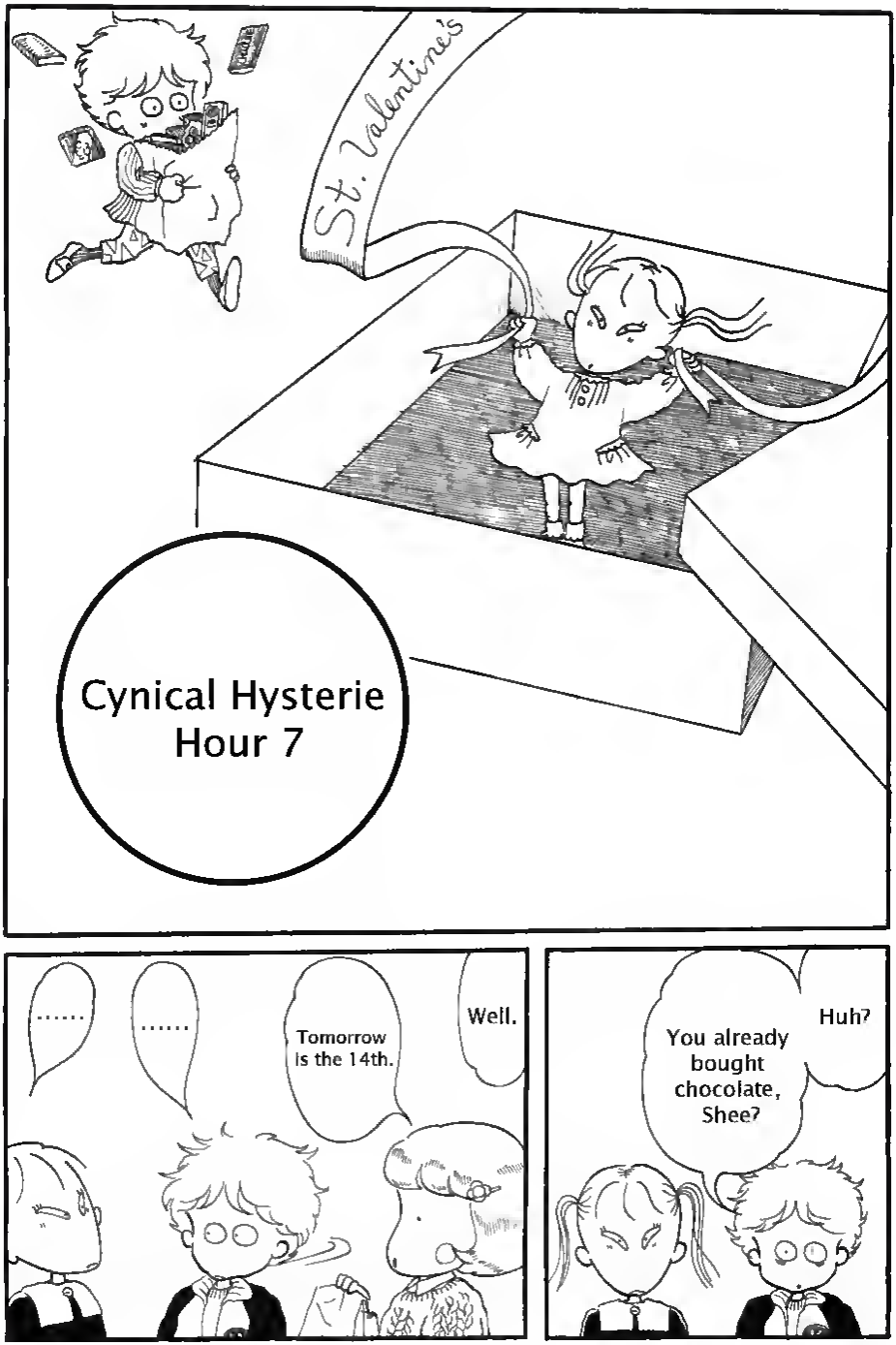

Show off.
I've changed my brother's diapers.
Hmph.
I'll change it.
Oh.
Maybe her diaper's wet.
.....
All done.
...
I'll go do the ironing
Okay ...
.....
You don't know what you're talking about.
You don't have a little brother or sister.
It's fine.
It's all bunched up around her hips
isn't some-thing weird?
...Uh-huh
.....
Good, huh?
What do you think?
I'm done with my chores.
Thank you for watching the baby.

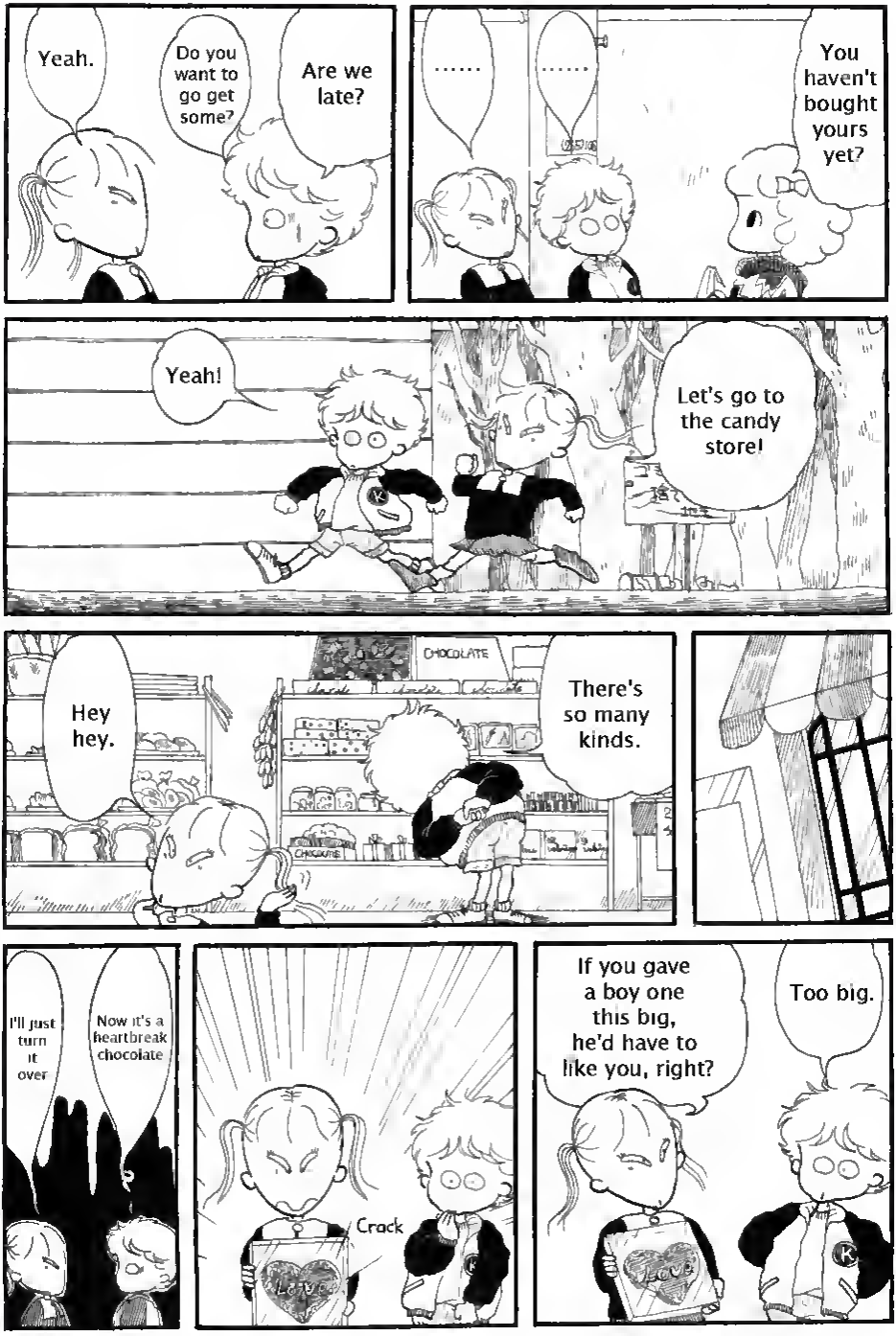
Time for her feeding.
Oh.
Ding
Ding
Ding
I'll fix your diaper later, okay?
Told ya
See.
Let me do it!
Feeding?
Huh!?
You've never done it before.
I know what I'm doing.
So let me give her her bottle.
You got to change her diaper Tsuneko.
You don't have a little brother or sister

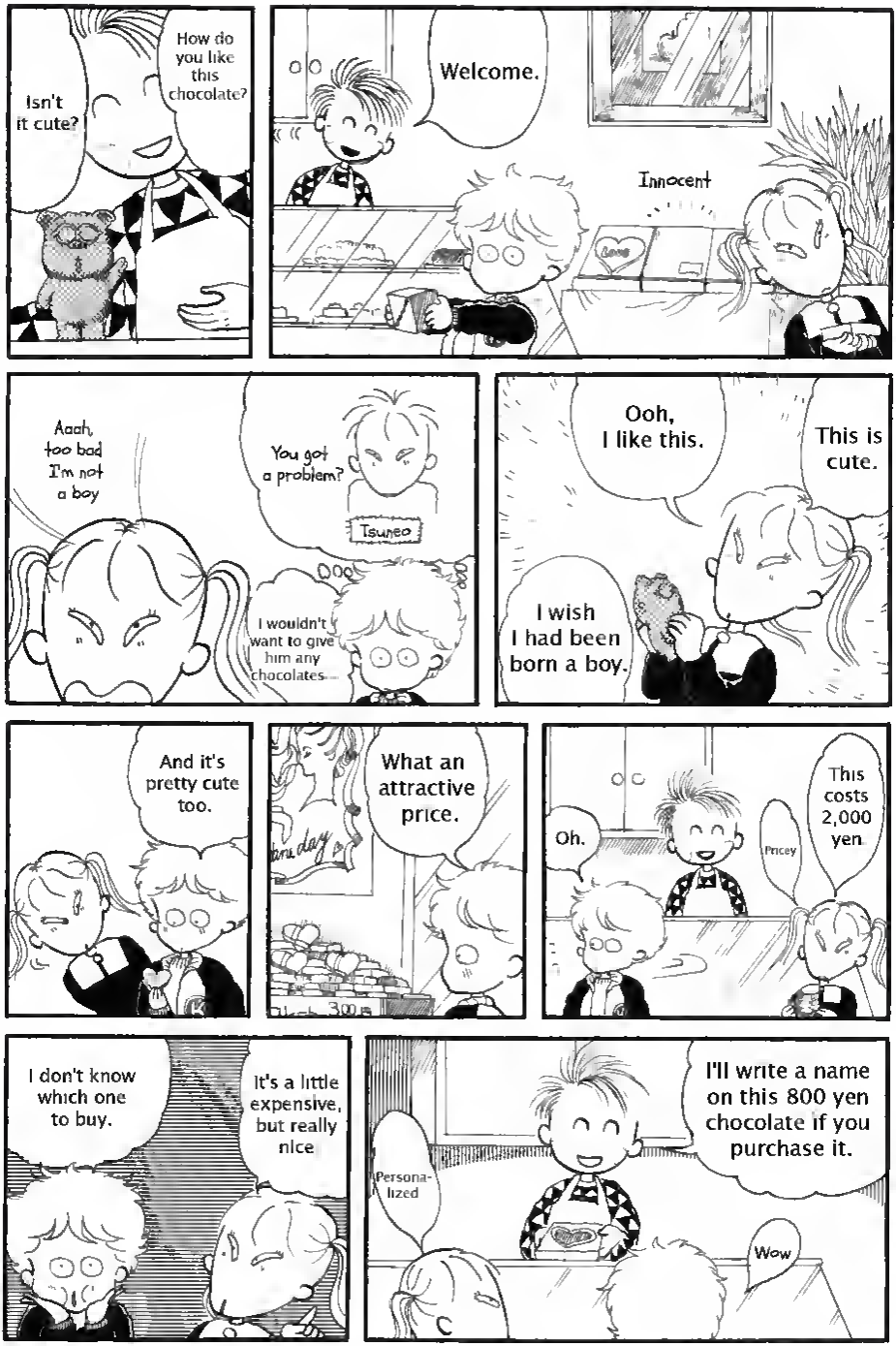
What are you doing?
Hey!
That's no fair Tsuneko
Yoink
Babies are more fun.
i don't want to.
Why don't you go watch your little brother Tsuneko?
i had a doll that you feed with a bottle.
I can feed her.
PFFT
GRAB
Poor baby
Don't be so rough.
YANK
You're pulling her really hard.
So are you Tsuneko.
Stopped babbling
You're going to hurt the baby
Hanako, let go.
Mom, come home quick!
We'll have a competition Tsuneko.
This won't decide anything.
Ooomph.

They're completely ignoring me.
Whoever wins gets the baby.
Okay?
Oh
Old Maid, best out of three.
Let's do it, then.
A competition!?
He he he.
Hm?
Ah!
Tee-hee.
Hah!
Our cards don't have an old maid.

Uh-huh.
Let's play Othello.
Okay.
... another game?
Do you have...
Well why didn't you say so earlier!?
Othello?
Hmm.
Ooh!
Hmm
Yeah.
That was fun.
That was good.
Oh
I thought you'd do that.
There!
Let's do it.
Do you want to play one more?
Wait a minute.
Um...
Your bottle is cold.
Boo


St. Valentine's
Cynical Hysterie
Hour 7
.....
.....
Tomorrow is the 14th.
Well.
You already bought chocolate, Shee?
Huh?

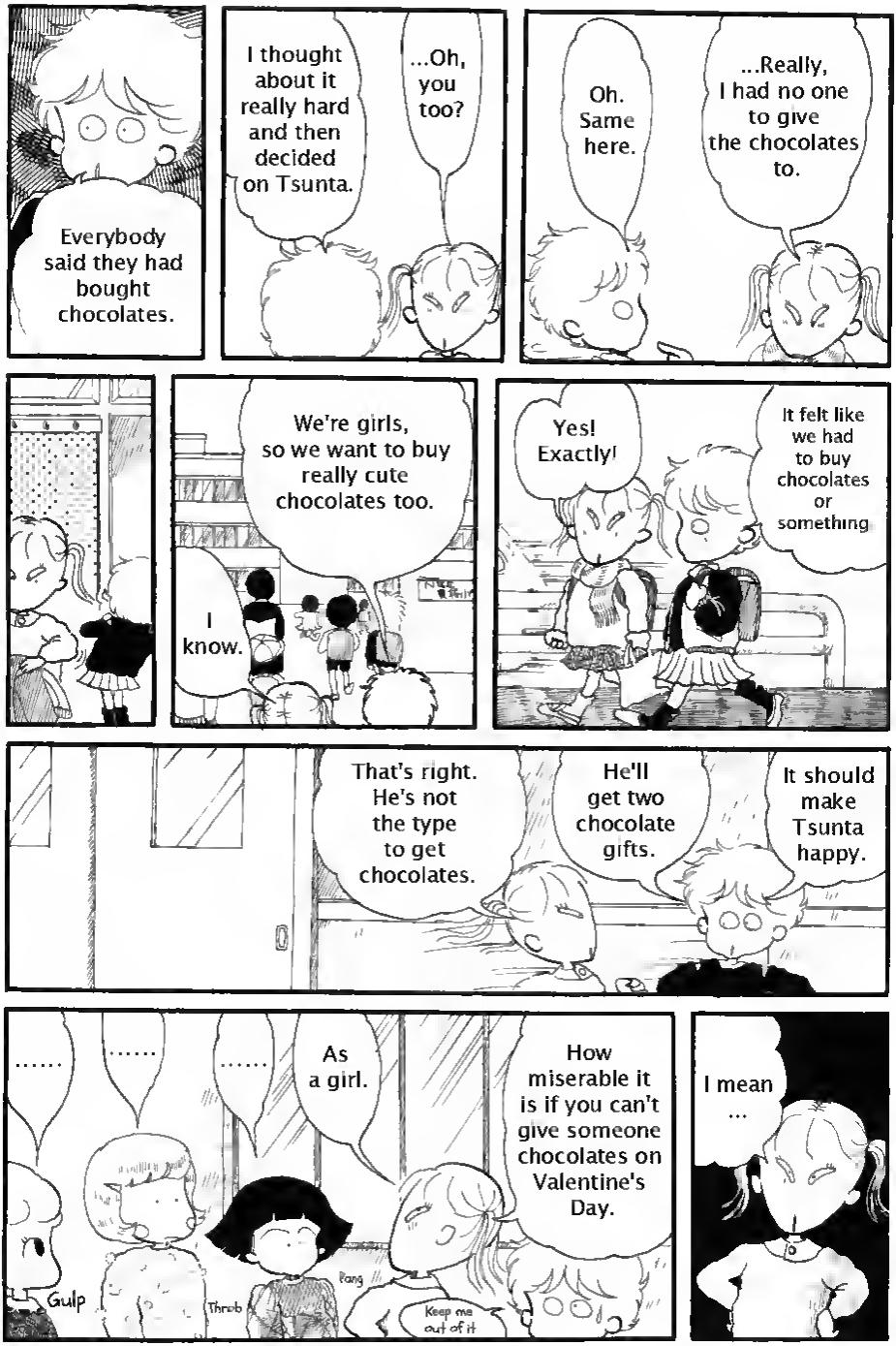

Yeah.
Do you want to go get some?
Are we late?
.....
.....
You haven't bought yours yet?
Yeah!
Let's go to the candy store!
CHOCOLATE
Hey hey.
There's so many kinds.
I'll just turn it over
Now it's a heartbreak chocolate
Crack
If you gave a boy one this big, he'd have to like you, right?
Too big.

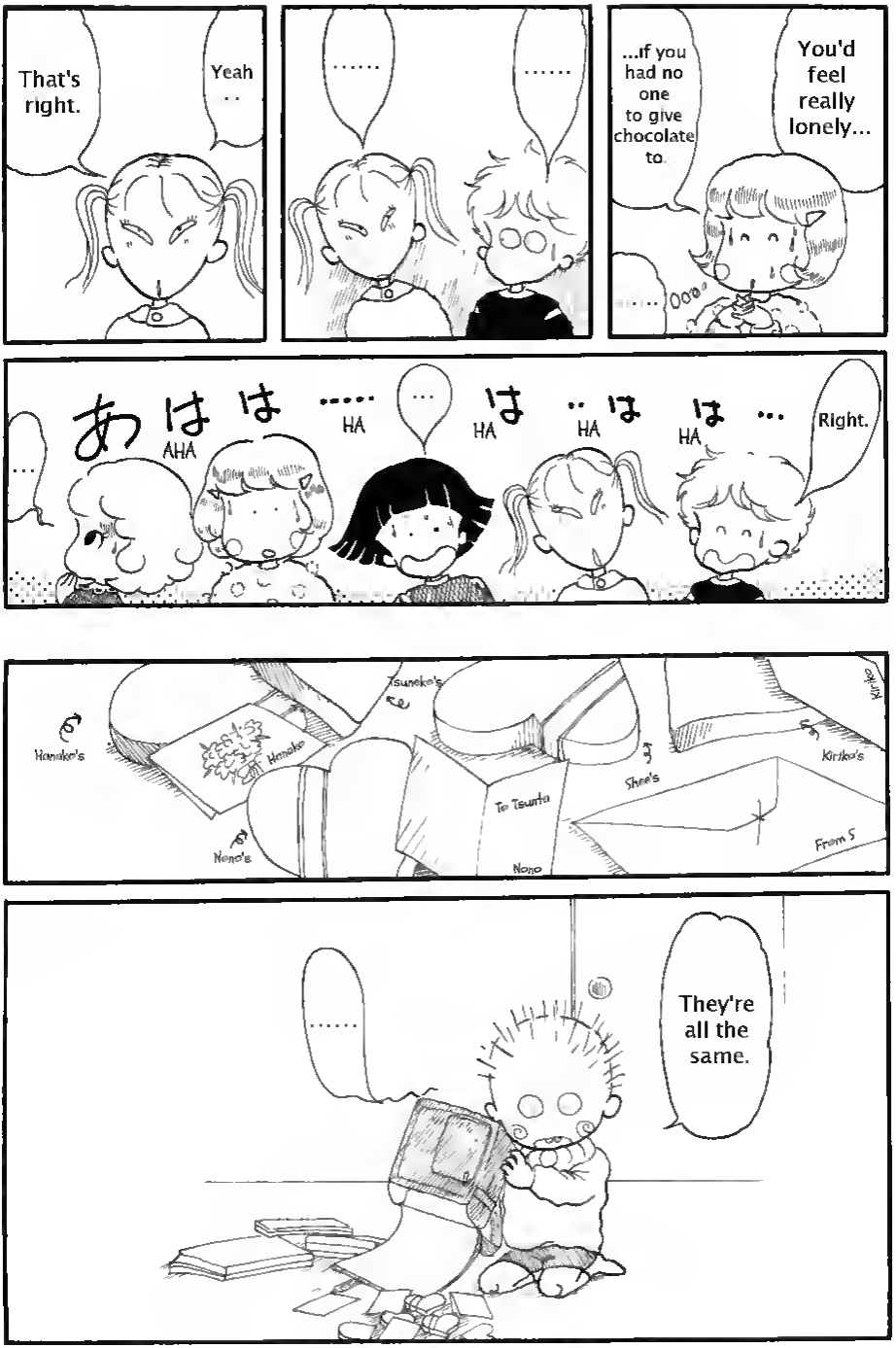

How do you like this chocolate?
Isn't it cute?
Welcome.
Innocent
Love
Aaah, too bad I'm not a boy
You got a problem?
Tsuneo
I wouldn't want to give him any chocolates...
Ooh, I like this.
This is cute.
I wish I had been born a boy.
And it's pretty cute too.
What an attractive price.
Oh.
Pricey
This costs 2,000 yen
I don't know which one to buy.
It's a little expensive, but really nice
Persona-lized
I'll write a name on this 800 yen chocolate if you purchase it.
Wow

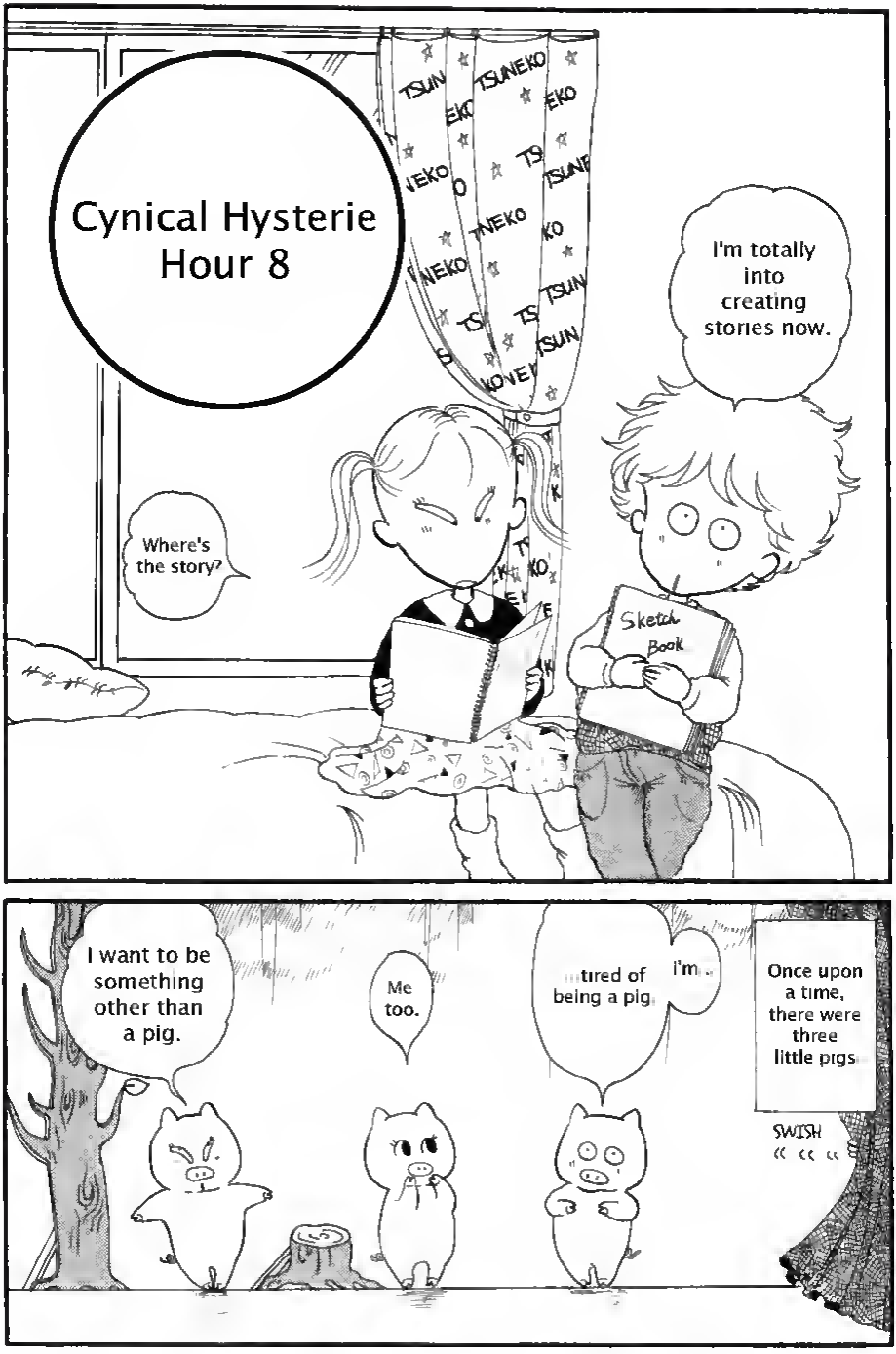
It's a secret
Don't be like that!
.....
Who are you going to give chocolates to, Kiriko?
So.
.....
I...
Who are you giving chocolates to?
What about you, Tsuneko?
I'm your friend, right?
You can tell me, you know.
This please.
All that and they buy the cheapest ones
It doesn't matter who.
They want to buy chocolates but they have no one to give them to. Can you relate to their adolescent dilemma?

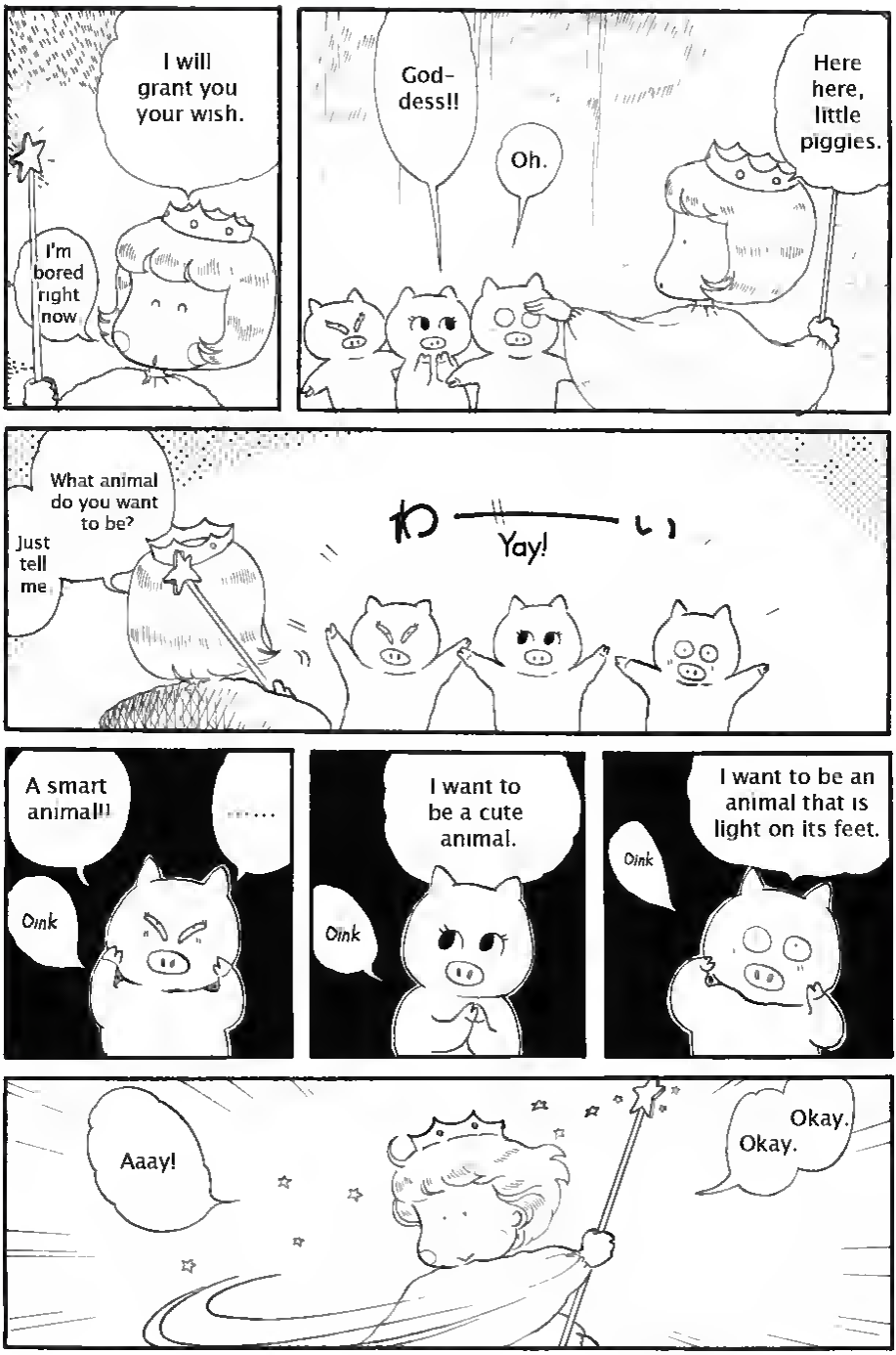
I bought some
I...
At last, tomorrow at school I can say ...
As long as I buy chocolate, I'm okay.
Feb 14
Morning
Who should I give it to?
But ...
Aah!
GRAB
Of course ... See?
Did you bring yours?
Aha ha ha.
To Tsunta.
Lemme see
Give it back.

Watch out!!
BEEP BEEP
I'm going to tell everybody.
Aaah.
Thud
Eek!
To Tsunta
Hm?
Don't pick it up!
It's fine!
He helped me out before, so you know.
He helped me with my homework.
You see.
It's not I like him or don't like him.
It's not!
I'm just giving him something in return.


Everybody said they had bought chocolates.
I thought about it really hard and then decided on Tsunta.
...Oh, you too?
Oh. Same here.
...Really, I had no one to give the chocolates to.
We're girls, so we want to buy really cute chocolates too.
I know.
Yes! Exactly!
It felt like we had to buy chocolates or something
That's right. He's not the type to get chocolates.
He'll get two chocolate gifts.
It should make Tsunta happy.
.....
.....
.....
As a girl.
How miserable it is if you can't give someone chocolates on Valentine's Day.
Gulp
Throb
Pang
Keep me out of it
I mean ...

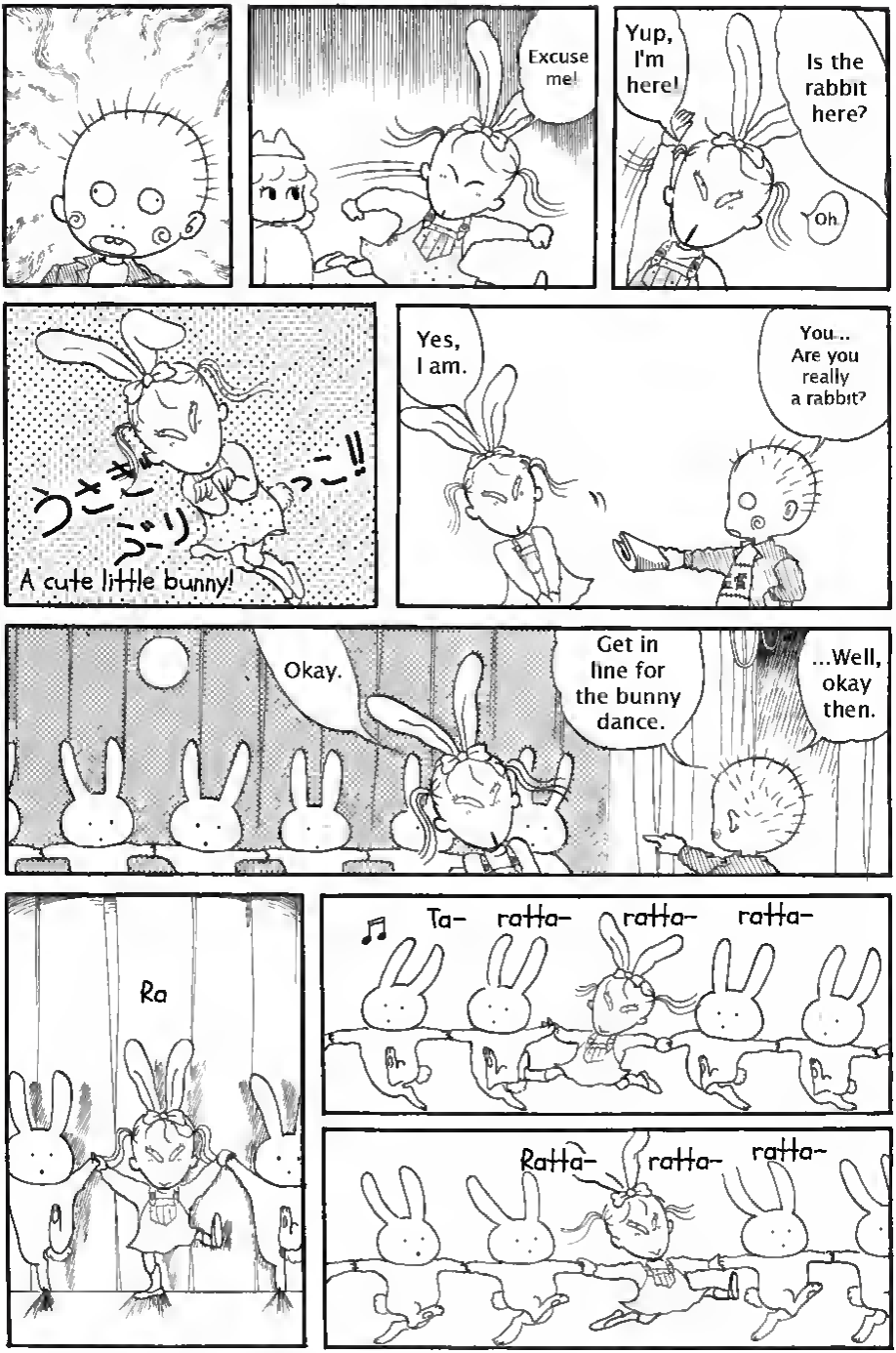

That's right.
Yeah..
.....
.....
...if you had no one to give chocolate to.
You'd feel really lonely...
あはは
AHA
.....
HA
...
HA
..
HA
は
HA
...
Right.
Hanako's
Hanako
Tsuneko's
Te Tsuneko
Nono's
Nono
Shee's
From S
Kirika's
Kirika
.....
They're all the same.

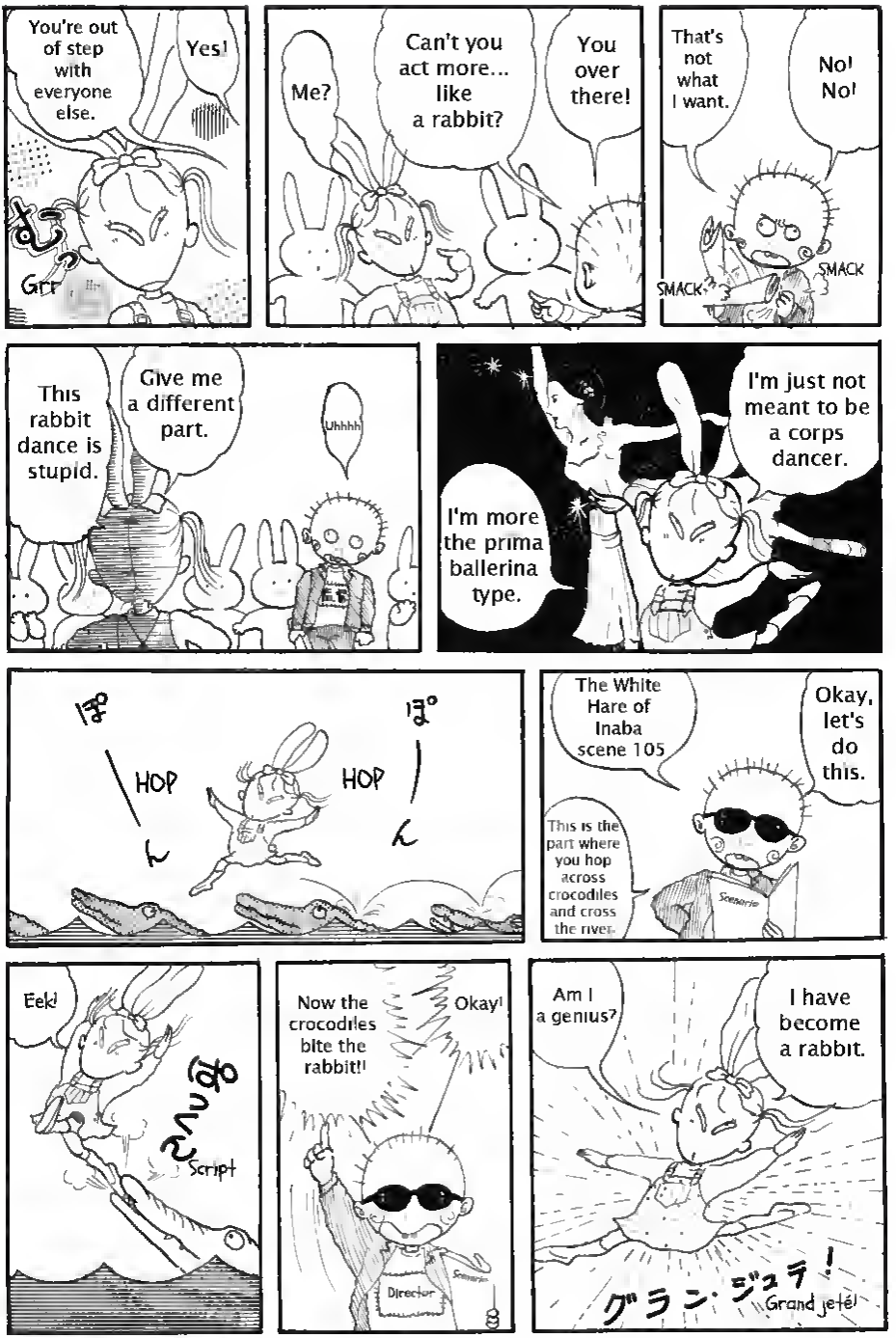

Cynical Hysterie Hour 8
Where's the story?
I'm totally into creating stories now.
Sketch Book
I want to be something other than a pig.
Me too.
I'm tired of being a pig.
Once upon a time, there were three little pigs
SWISH

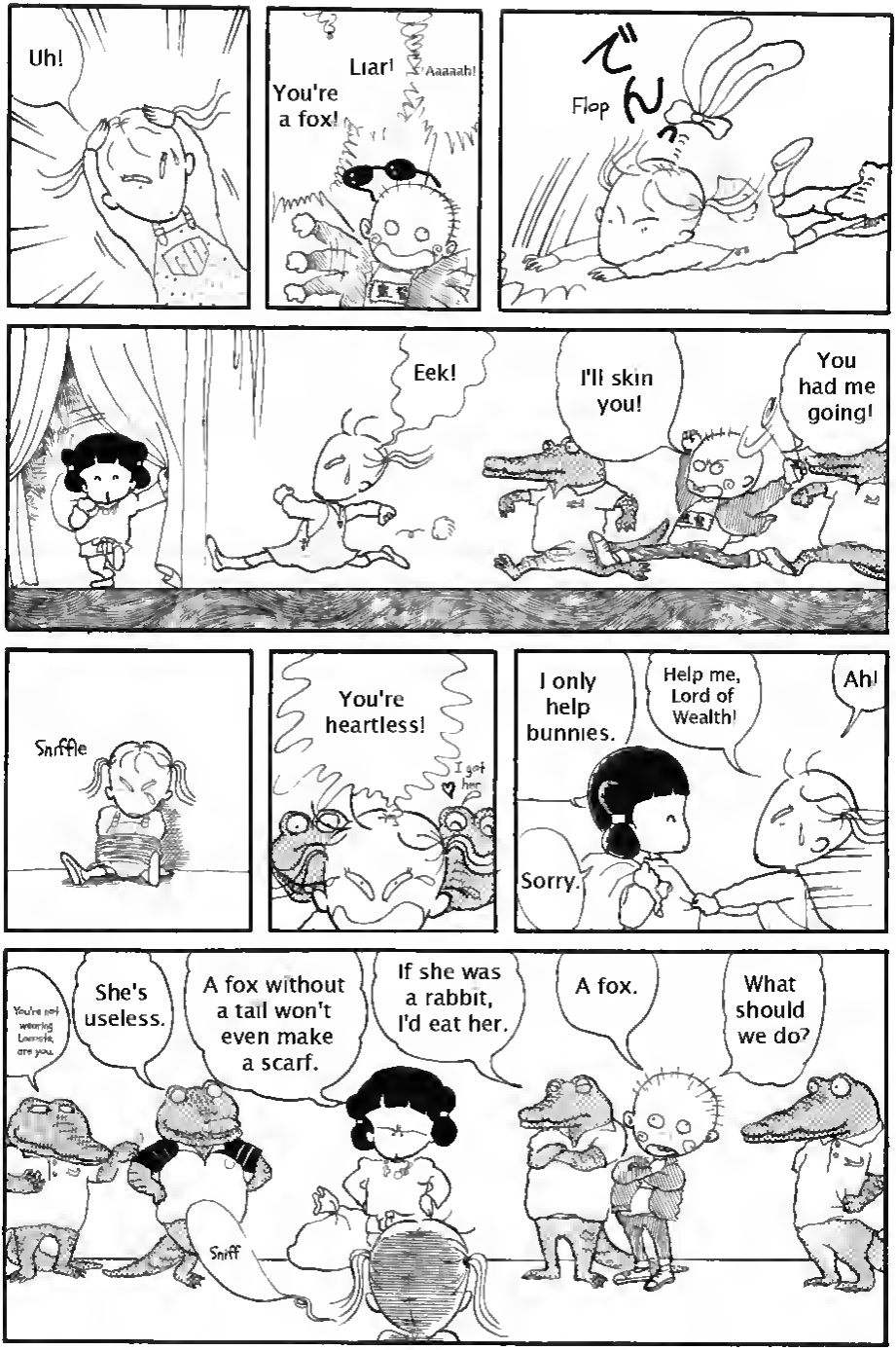

I will grant you your wish.
I'm bored right now
God-dess!!
Oh.
Here here, little piggies.
What animal do you want to be?
Just tell me
わーい
Yay!
A smart animal!!
.....
Oink
I want to be a cute animal.
Oink
I want to be an animal that is light on its feet.
Oink
Aaay!
Okay. Okay.

Hey!
Well!
Wow!
Bye now.
Thank you, Goddess.
This tail.
What's this?
Grr
Grr
Grr
But foxes are cute.
I don't like foxes
What?
... don't like it.
I...
You really mean it?
Yah!
Yes.
You really think so?

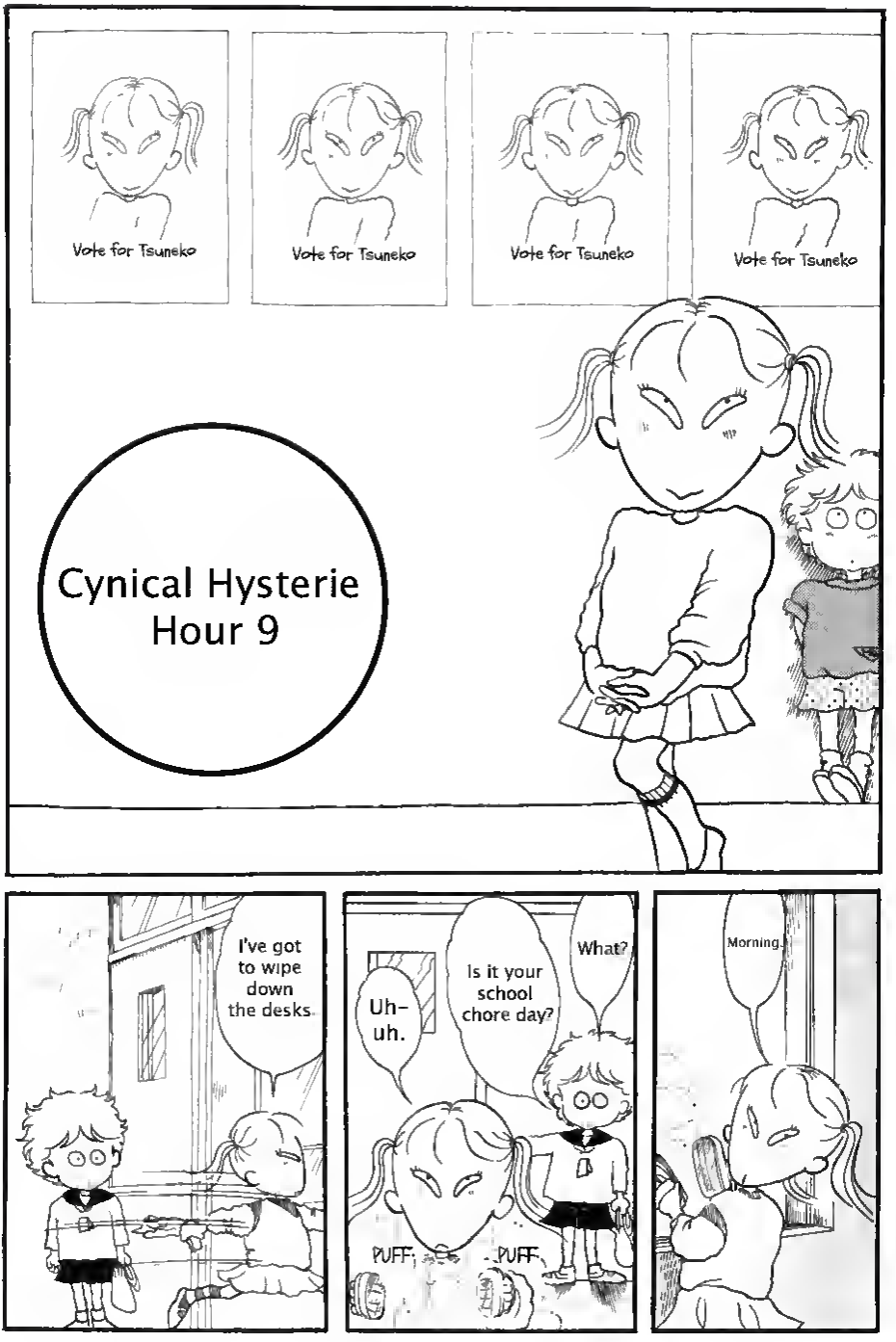
Sniffle
Hmpf
Heeey.
Then switch with me.
I was really a bunny, but...
I'm a bunny.
I'm a cat.
The three animals, wanting to start their new lives, stumbled into an audition venue.
To get new parts.
Hmph
The Girl Who Wore Boots
See ya!
Okay.
You, cat over there.
Put these on.
You got a problem?
...
GLARE
.....
Happy
Happy
Kachi-kachi Yama?
What is my part?
The White Hare of Inaba?

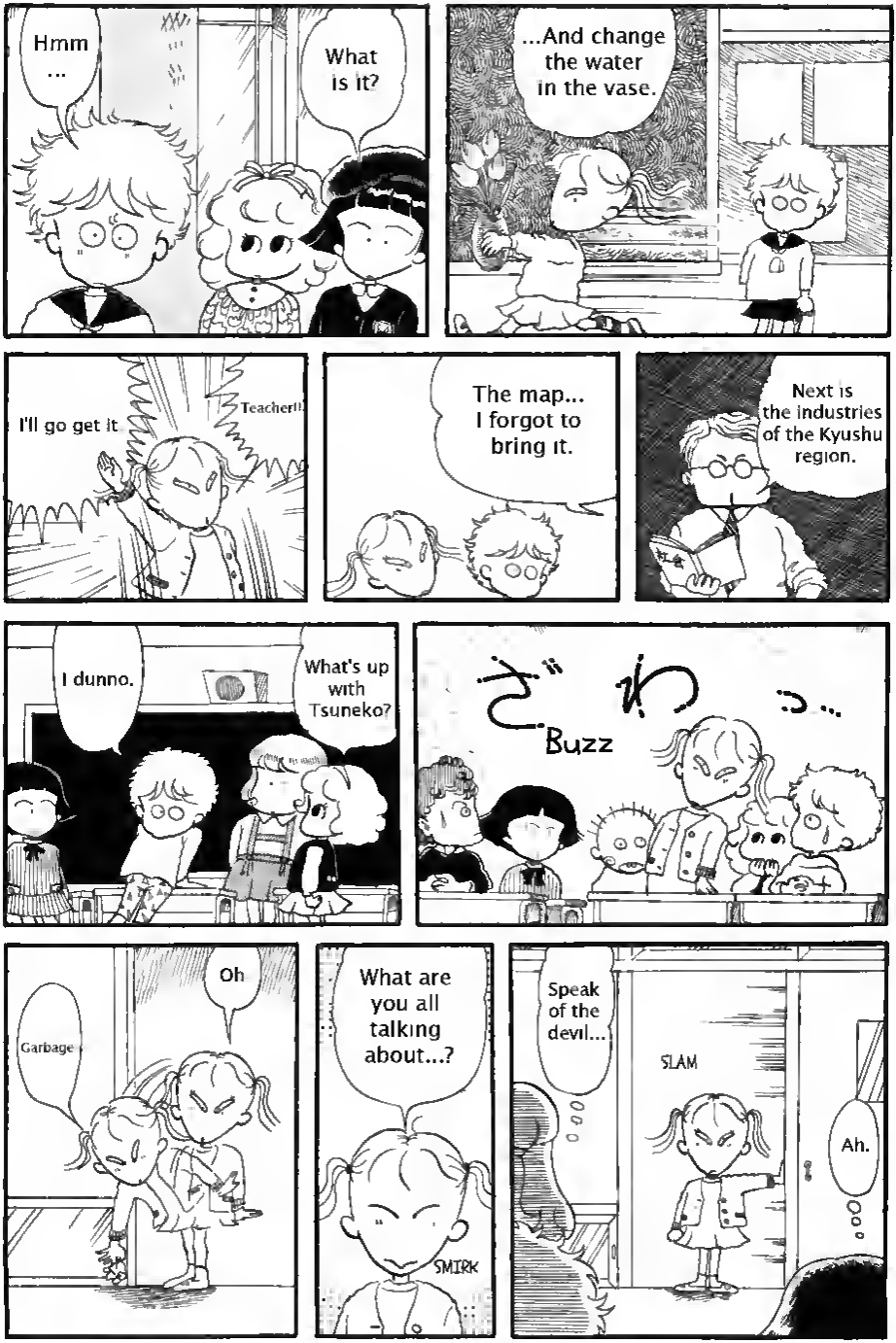

Excuse me!
Yup, I'm here!
Is the rabbit here?
Oh
うさぎ ぴょこぴょこ!!
A cute little bunny!
Yes, I am.
You... Are you really a rabbit?
Okay.
Get in line for the bunny dance.
...Well, okay then.
Ra
Ta- ratta- ratta- ratta-
Ratta- ratta- ratta-


You're out of step with everyone else.
Yes!
Grr
Me?
Can't you act more... like a rabbit?
You over there!
That's not what I want.
No! No!
SMACK
SMACK
This rabbit dance is stupid.
Give me a different part.
Uhhhh
I'm more the prima ballerina type.
I'm just not meant to be a corps dancer.
HOP
HOP
The White Hare of Inaba scene 105
Okay, let's do this.
This is the part where you hop across crocodiles and cross the river.
Eek!
Script
Now the crocodiles bite the rabbit!!
Okay!
Director
Am I a genius?
I have become a rabbit.
グラン・ジュテ！
Grand jeté!

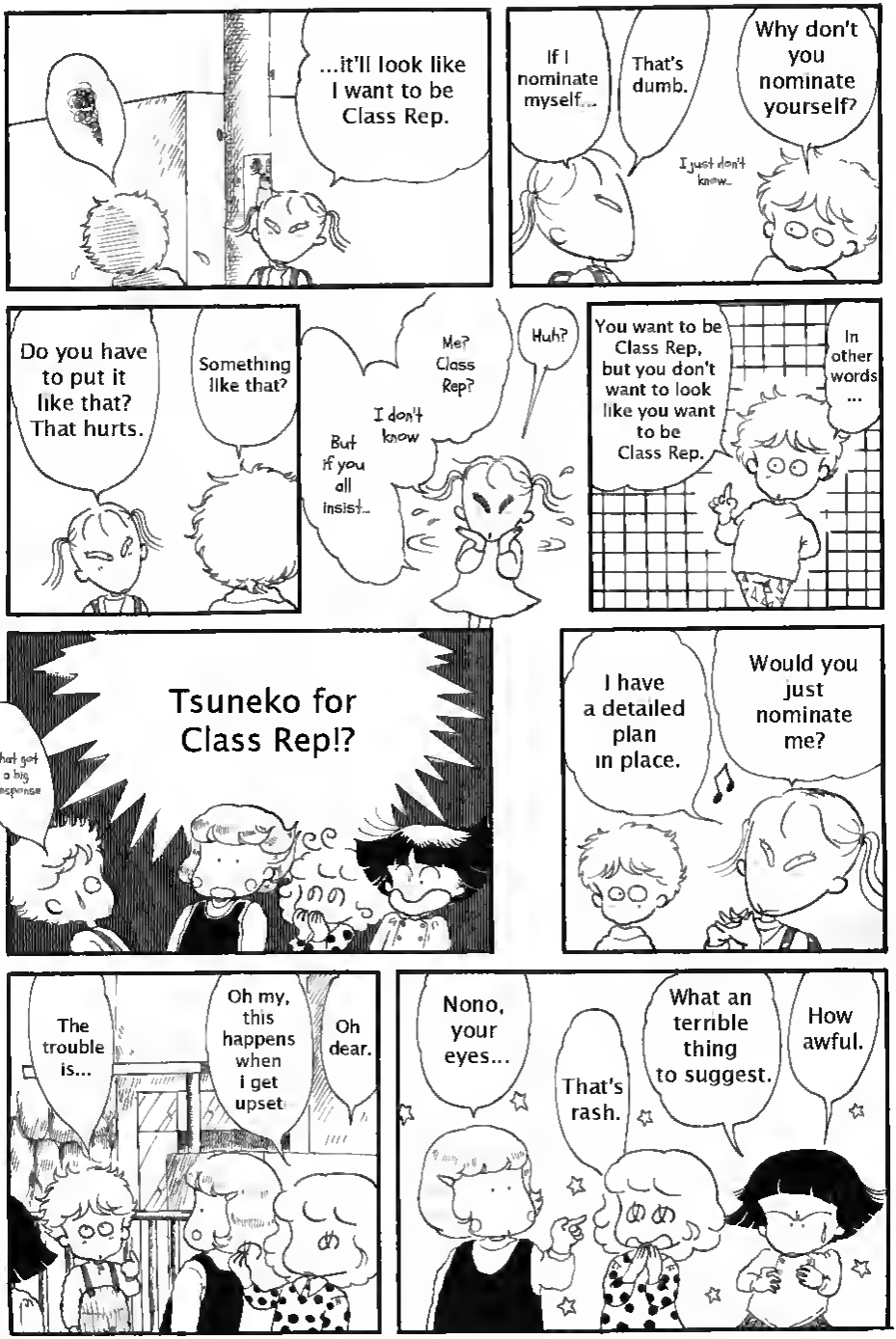

Uh!
You're a fox!
Liar!
Aaaaah!
Flop
Eek!
I'll skin you!
You had me going!
Sniffle
You're heartless!
I got her
I only help bunnies.
Help me, Lord of Wealth!
Ah!
Sorry.
You're not wearing Lacoste, are you.
She's useless.
A fox without a tail won't even make a scarf.
If she was a rabbit, I'd eat her.
A fox.
What should we do?
Sniff

Sniffle
Untie me!
Let's go.
Shuffle
Shuffle
Yeah.
Let's just leave her.
Oh...
Awful...
Just untie me.
Forget about that.
I lost them running around.
Oh, Nono.
Where are my ears and tail?
What's wrong, Tsuneko?
Ah...
It was mine to begin with.
I'm taking these back.
WAHAHAHA
When the kind Nono untied her...
YELP
You stayed a fox...
Owie...
THWAP
Happily ever after
That was a weird story What.. happened to me?
I'm nice to good children
With her ears and tail taken away, Nono lived happily ever after as a human.

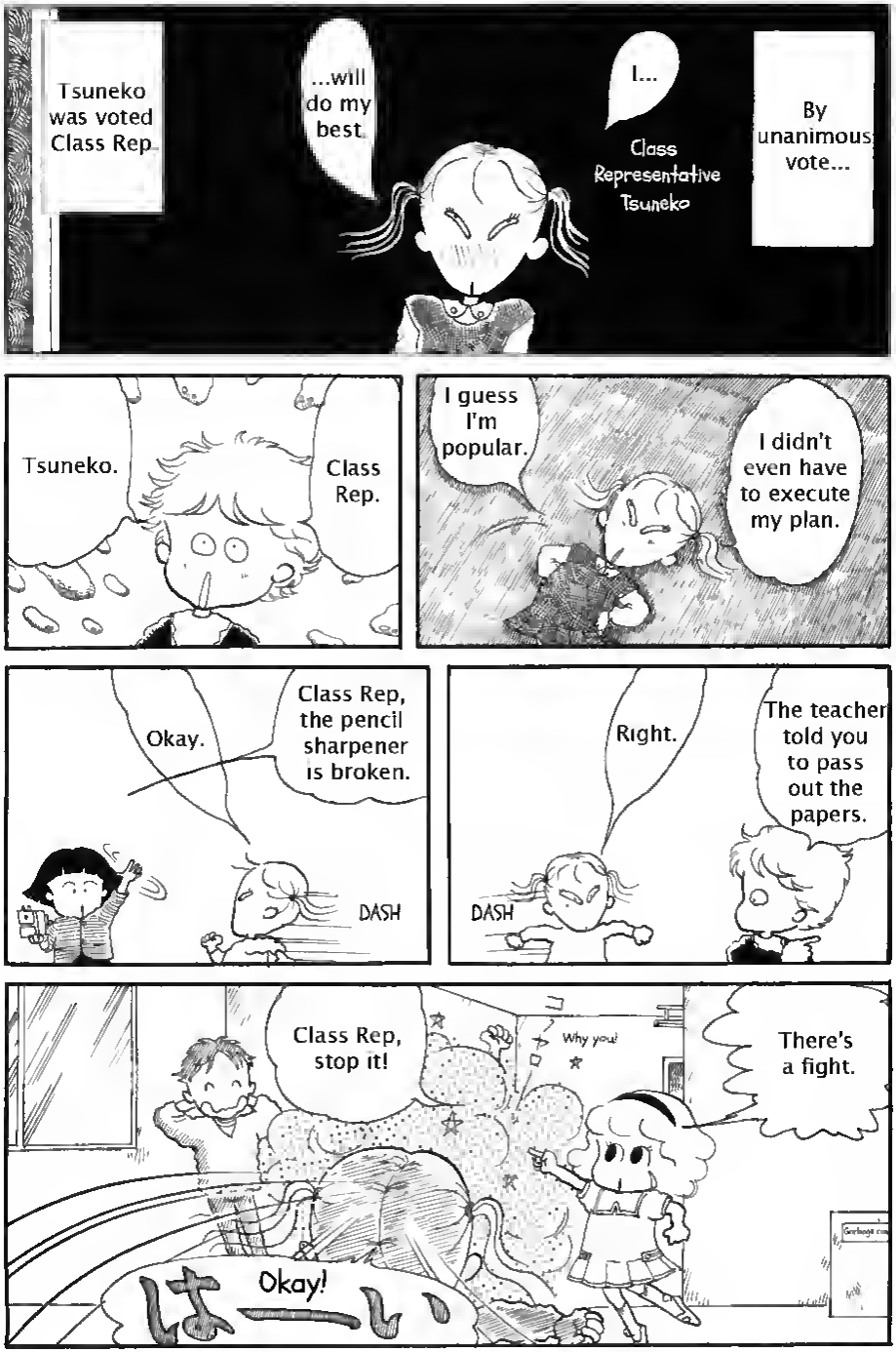

Vote for Tsuneko
Vote for Tsuneko
Vote for Tsuneko
Vote for Tsuneko
Cynical Hysterie
Hour 9
I've got to wipe down the desks.
Uh-uh.
Is it your school chore day?
What?
PUFF
PUFF
Morning.

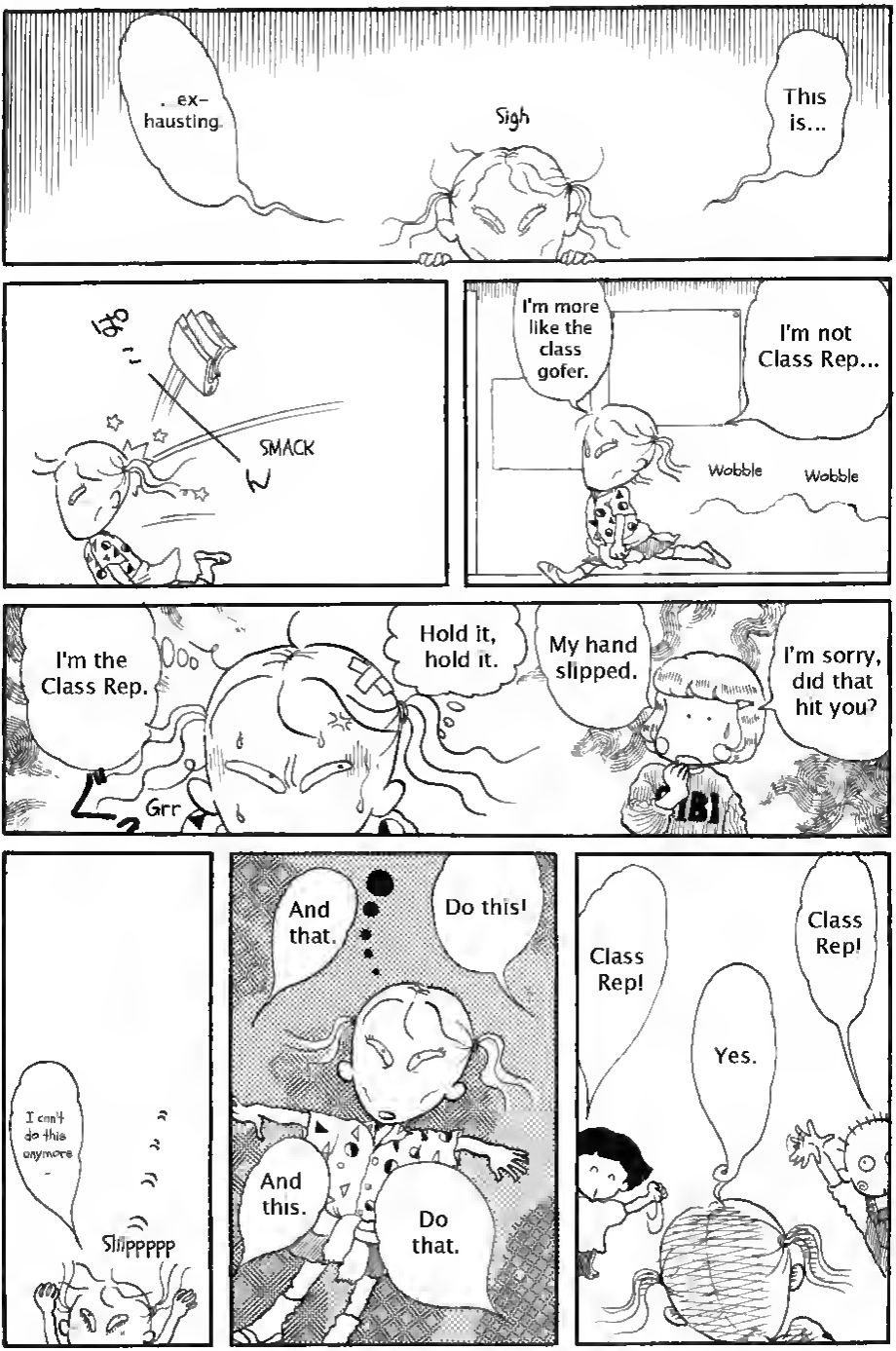

Hmm ...
What is it?
...And change the water in the vase.
I'll go get it
Teacher!!
The map... I forgot to bring it.
Next is the industries of the Kyushu region.
I dunno.
What's up with Tsuneko?
Buzz
Garbage
Oh
What are you all talking about...?
SMIRK
Speak of the devil...
SLAM
Ah.

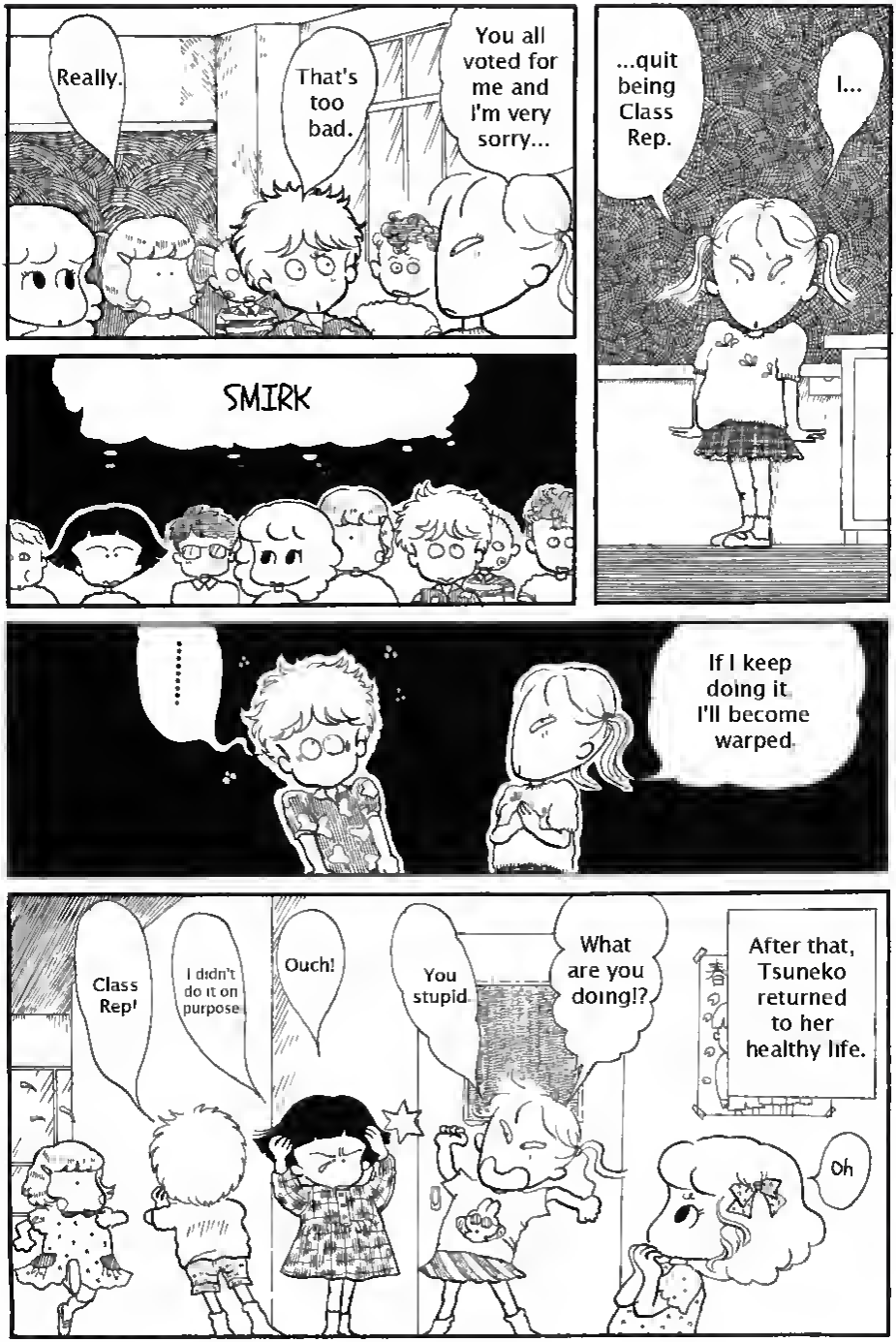
Silence
...
Garbage can
Swivel
Wow!
Stop
Strange
...
TAK
TAK
...to nominate me.
I want you, Kiriko ...
Yeah.
We vote for our class representatives in homeroom next week, right?
We're best friends, right?
Uh-huh...
That's not what I...
...You don't want to?
Of course that's it...
Huh?!
Class Rep.
きっぱり
What position?
... Okay.

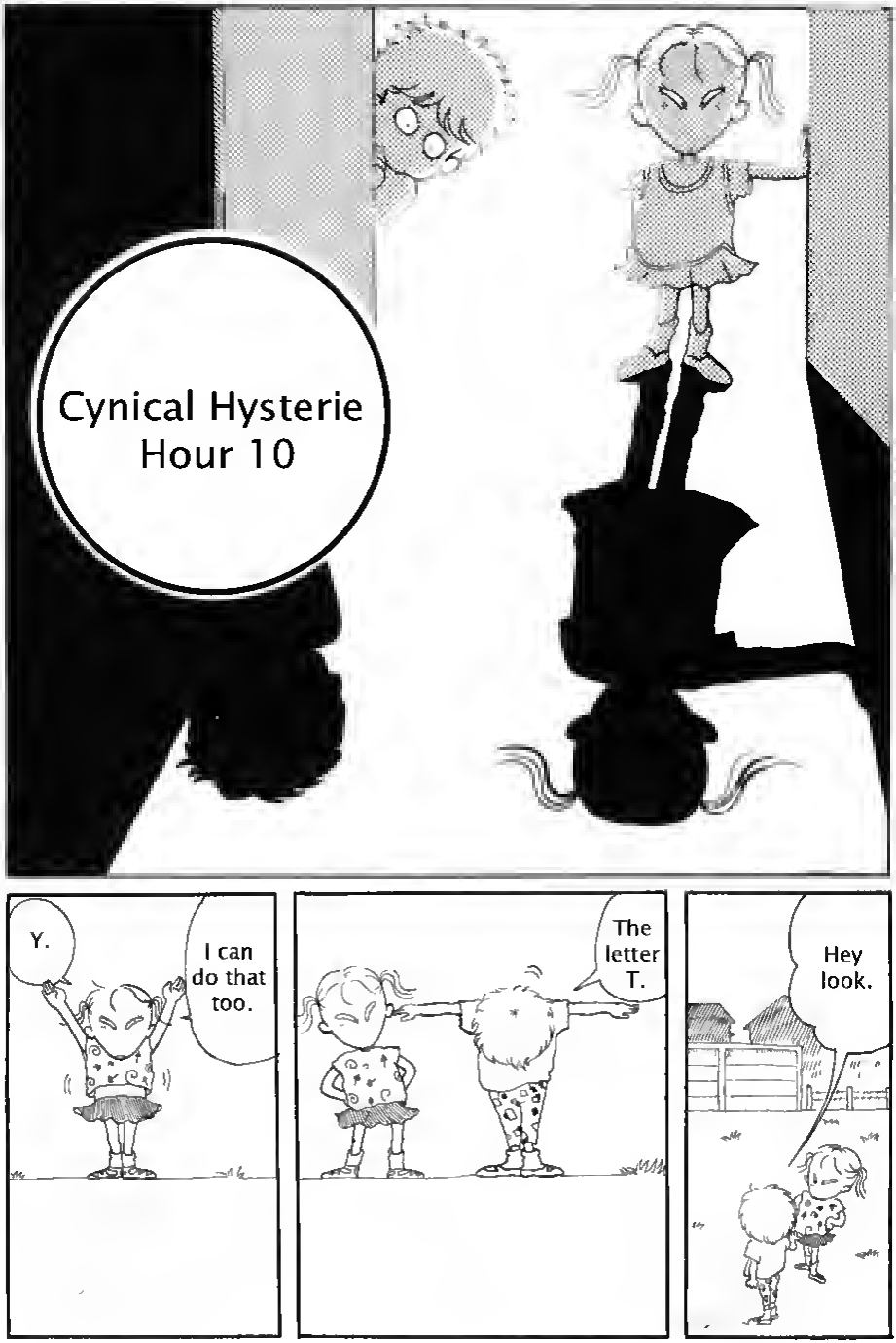

...it'll look like I want to be Class Rep.
If I nominate myself...
That's dumb.
Why don't you nominate yourself?
I just don't know...
Do you have to put it like that? That hurts.
Something like that?
But if you all insist...
I don't know
Me? Class Rep?
Huh?
You want to be Class Rep, but you don't want to look like you want to be Class Rep.
In other words ...
Tsuneko for Class Rep!?
That got a big response
I have a detailed plan in place.
Would you just nominate me?
The trouble is...
Oh my, this happens when I get upset
Oh dear.
Nono, your eyes...
That's rash.
What an terrible thing to suggest.
How awful.

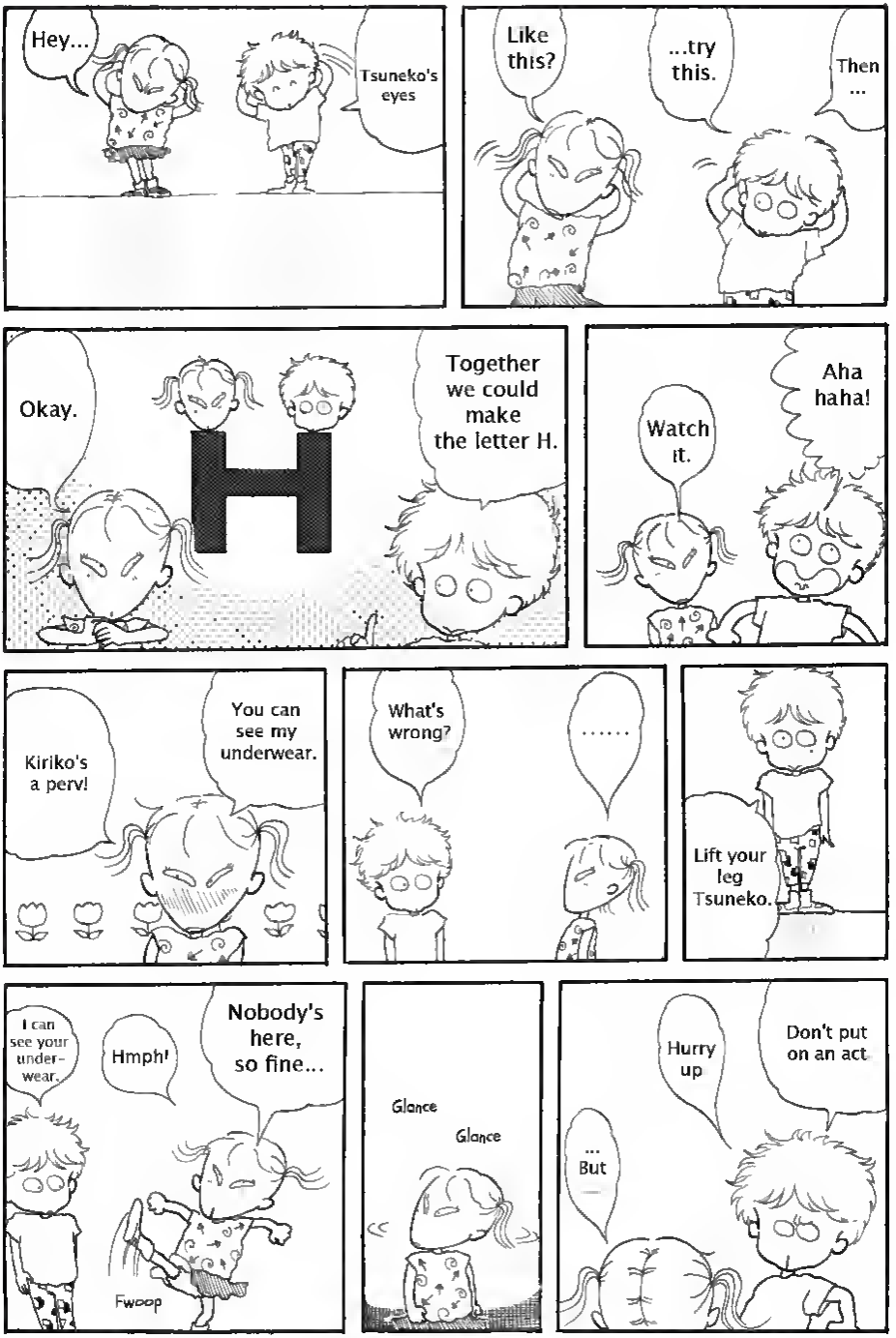
She will vanquish her rivals!!
Knowing Tsuneko's personality ..
Hmmm
The detailed plan Tsuneko talked about.
I don't like tension.
You're a leader type.
Shee, you've got to watch out too.
That's right. Nono's popular, especially with the boys.
Yikes.
Huh? No way.
First, she'll go after Nono.
It's a really good idea.
Hey, I have an idea. Why don't we just let Tsuneko be Class Rep?
.. for the Lunch Committee
I'll run too...
I'll run for the Health Committee.
I don't want to be Class Rep if there's going to be bad feelings.
Under-stand?
Uh-huh-
Kay.
Tell every-body.
I got it.
Oh.
So we...
Whisper
Whisper
Whisper

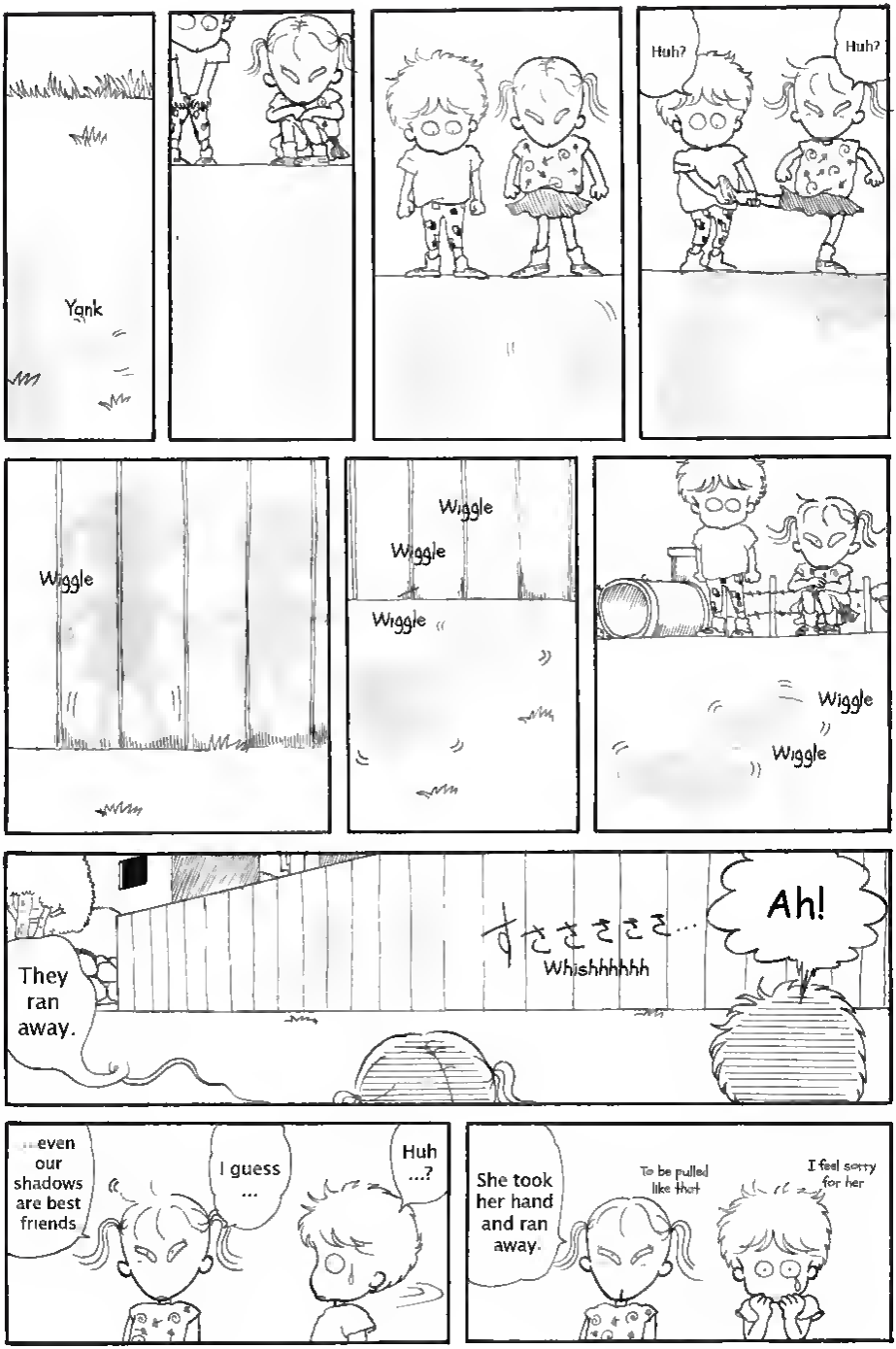

Tsuneko was voted Class Rep.
...will do my best.
I...
Class Representative Tsuneko
By unanimous vote...
Tsuneko.
Class Rep.
I guess I'm popular.
I didn't even have to execute my plan.
Okay.
Class Rep, the pencil sharpener is broken.
DASH
Right.
The teacher told you to pass out the papers.
DASH
Class Rep, stop it!
Why you!
There's a fight.
Okay!


. ex-
hausting.
Sigh
This is...
SMACK
I'm more like the class gofer.
I'm not Class Rep...
Wobble
Wobble
I'm the Class Rep.
Hold it, hold it.
My hand slipped.
I'm sorry, did that hit you?
Grr
I can't do this anymore -
Slipppppp
And that.
Do this!
And this.
Do that.
Class Rep!
Class Rep!
Yes.


Really.
That's too bad.
You all voted for me and I'm very sorry...
...quit being Class Rep.
I...
SMIRK
.....
If I keep doing it, I'll become warped.
Class Rep!
I didn't do it on purpose.
Ouch!
You stupid.
What are you doing!?
After that, Tsuneko returned to her healthy life.
Oh


Cynical Hysterie
Hour 10
Y.
I can do that too.
The letter T.
Hey look.


Hey...
Tsuneko's eyes
Like this?
...try this.
Then ...
Okay.
Together we could make the letter H.
Watch it.
Aha haha!
Kiriko's a perv!
You can see my underwear.
What's wrong?
.....
Lift your leg Tsuneko.
I can see your underwear.
Hmph!
Nobody's here, so fine...
Fwoop
Glance
Glance
Hurry up
Don't put on an act
... But —

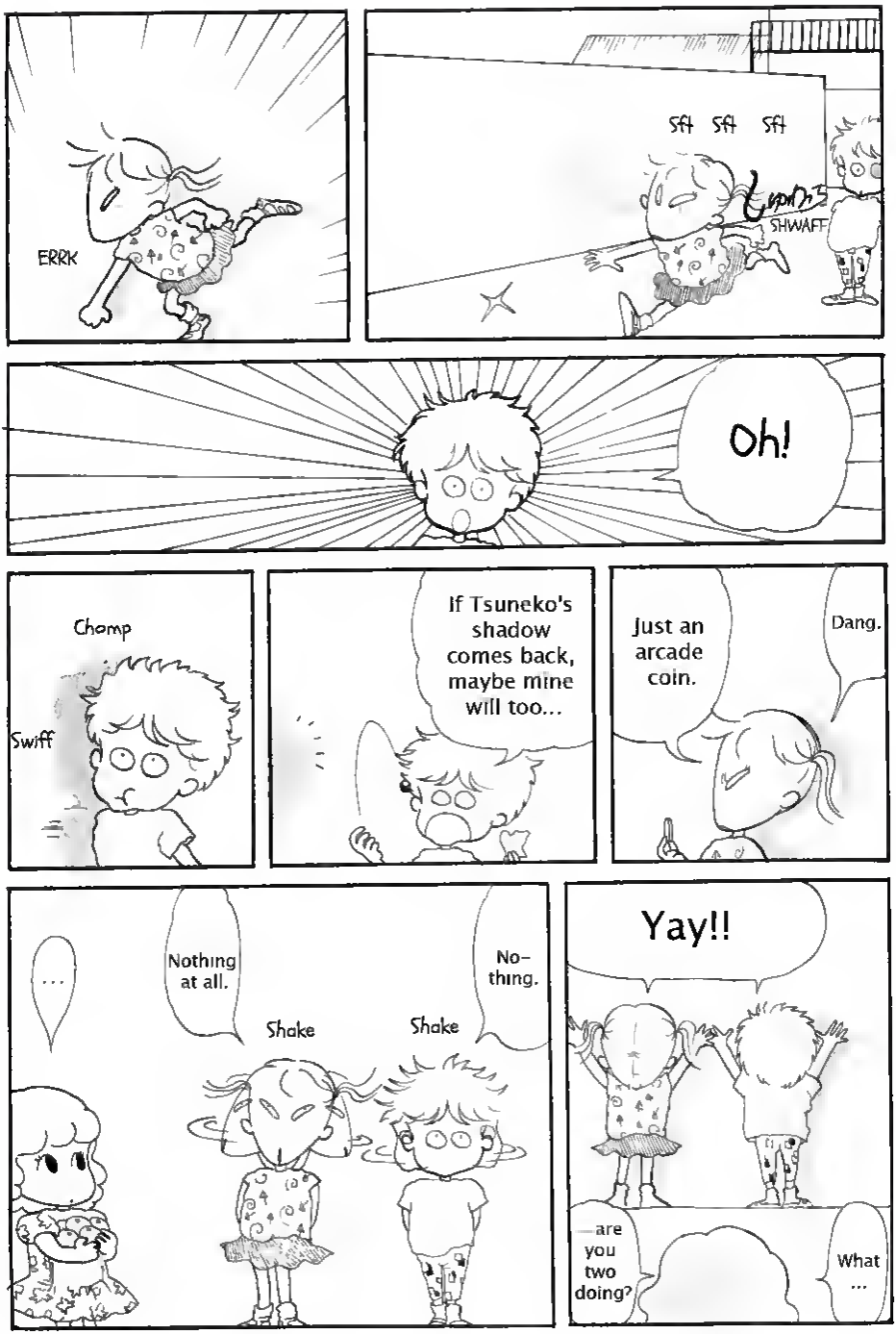

Yank
Huh?
Huh?
Wiggle
Wiggle
Wiggle
Wiggle
Wiggle
すさささささ…
Whishhhhhh
Ah!
They ran away.
…even our shadows are best friends
I guess …
Huh …?
She took her hand and ran away.
To be pulled like that
I feel sorry for her

Imagine a kid walking in the sunshine without a shadow.
She doesn't have a shadow!
Ah!
A ghost!
Get away!
I see ...
...Hurry, we have to catch our shadows.
Wait.
Okay, let's go.
Okay!!
ざっ
Now.
Bright
The sheets will have shadows.
Gulp
Why are you two covered in sheets?
Shake
Shake
Let me play too.
What are you doing? Are you playing a game?
はっ
Ah!
Why?
Sneak

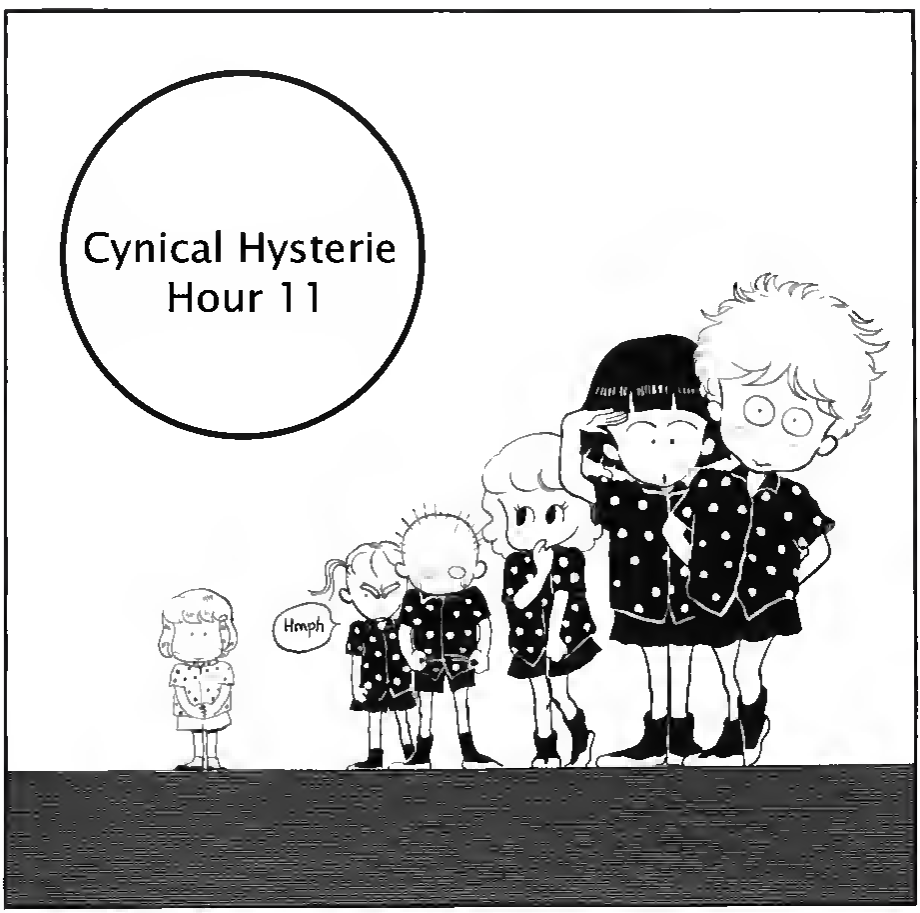
DASH
Hello.
Twist
Hey you!
.....
TUMP
OOH
FLAP
Hm?
Sneak
Uh
ERK
Shake
Whisshhh
Shake
...a new kind of Red Light, Green Light?
Is that ...

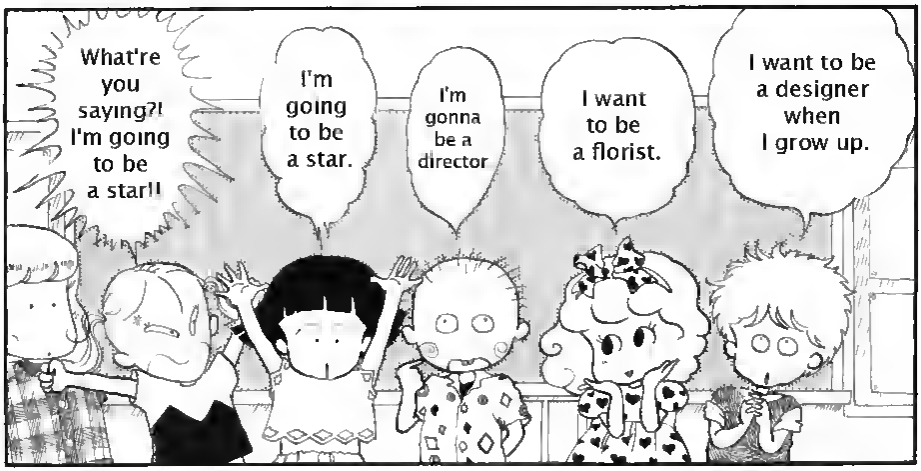
Hey, look over there
.....
What's going on?
Something dark was moving.
Fwishhhhh
...anything about it.
Shake
Shake
We don't know..
Yeah.
This is exhausting
See ya later.
We're sorry, but we're in a hurry.
Only the florist left to go.

Over there.
There they are.
What was that?
Owie!
KONK
?
?
?
Eeeeh!
FLAP
That's strange
?
?
Sneak
...her reactions are also the same
Ouch.
So maybe...
POW
Just like the real Tsuneko.
That's awful.
URK
A 500 yen coin!
Look!
Clink
Let's try it.
Jingle
Jingle

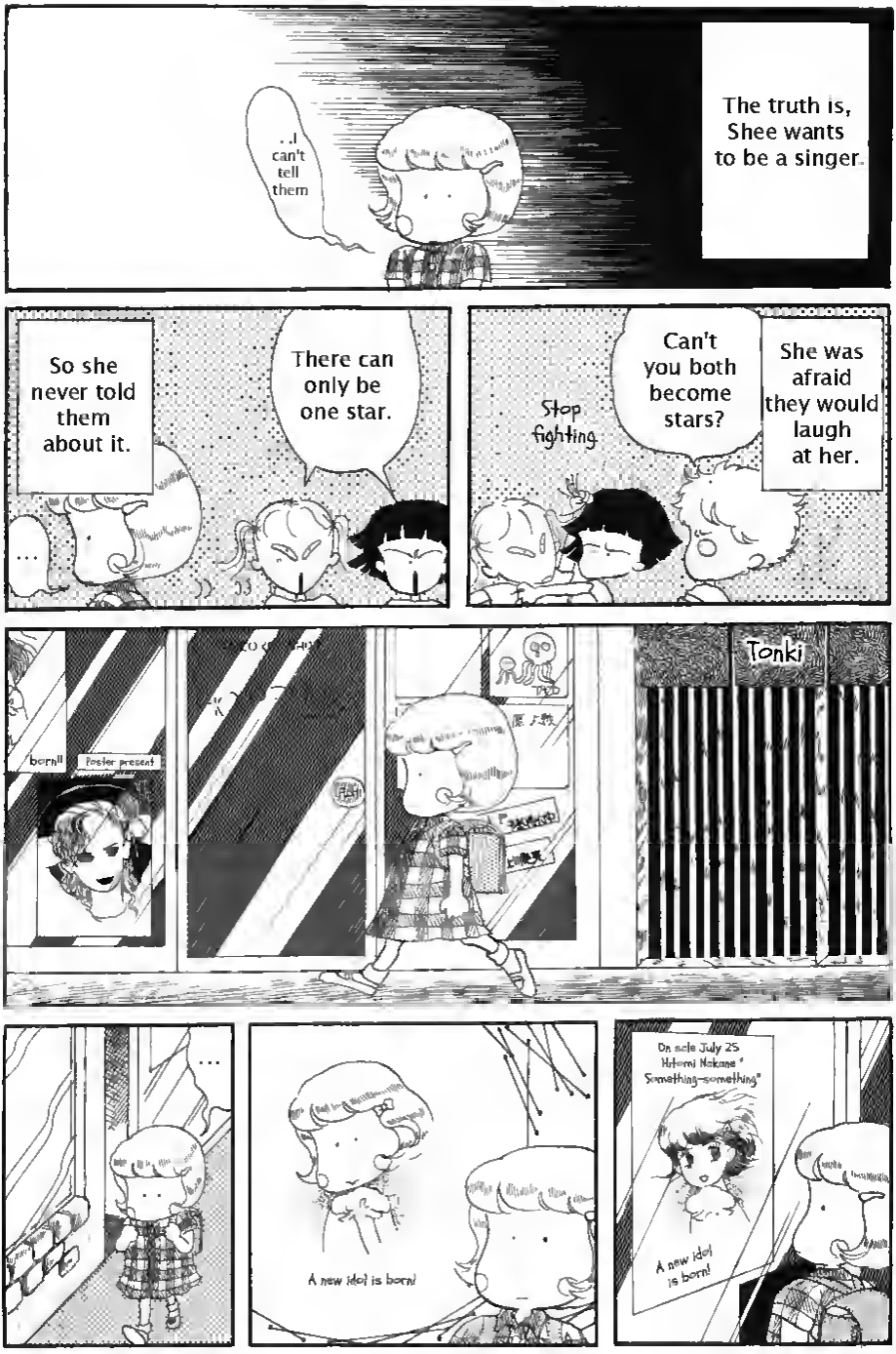

ERRK
Sfl Sfl Sfl
SHWAFF
Oh!
Chomp
Swiff
If Tsuneko's shadow comes back, maybe mine will too...
Just an arcade coin.
Dang.
...
Nothing at all.
Shake
Shake
No-thing.
Yay!!
—are you two doing?
What ...

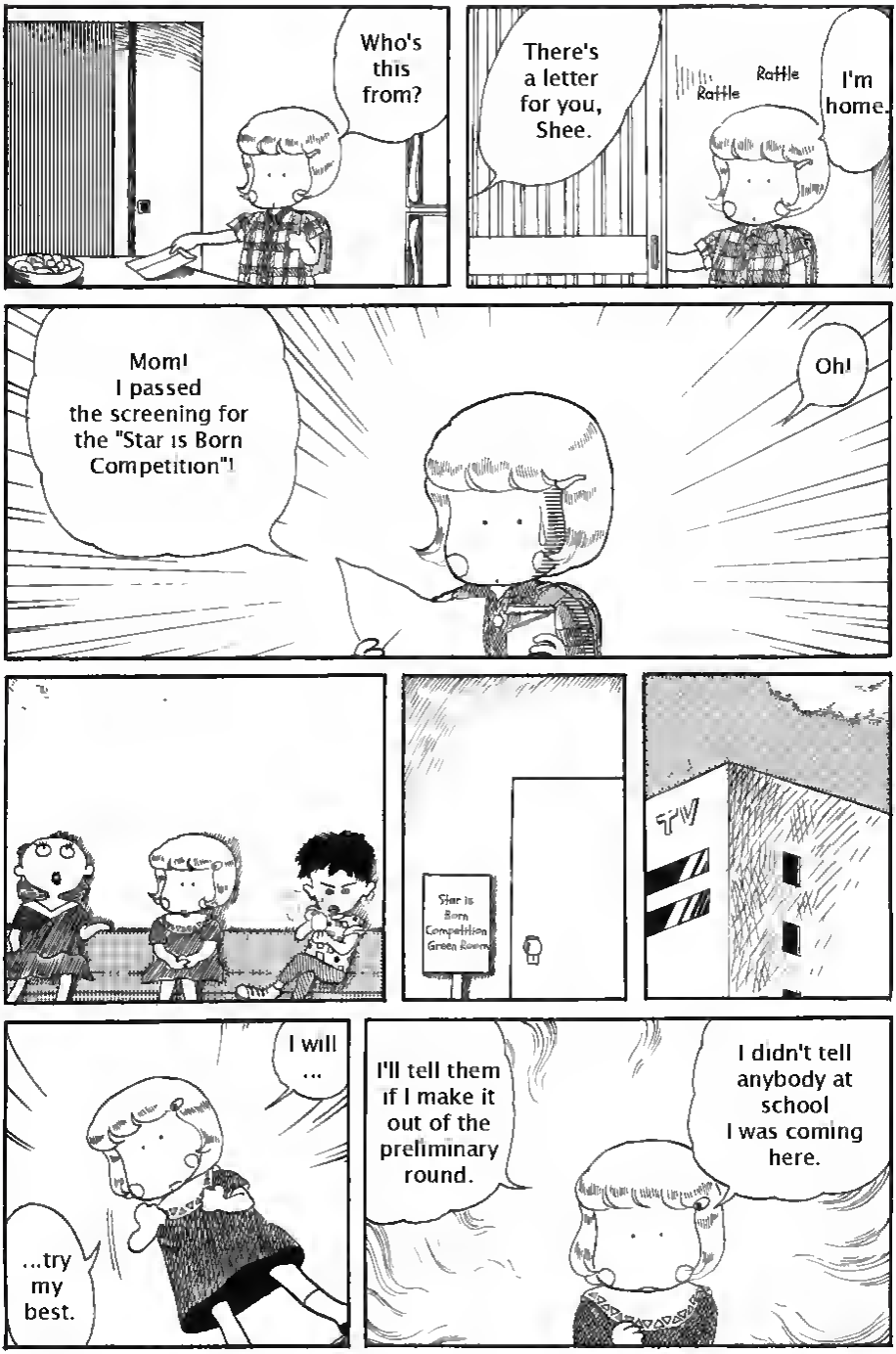
Cynical Hysterie Hour 11

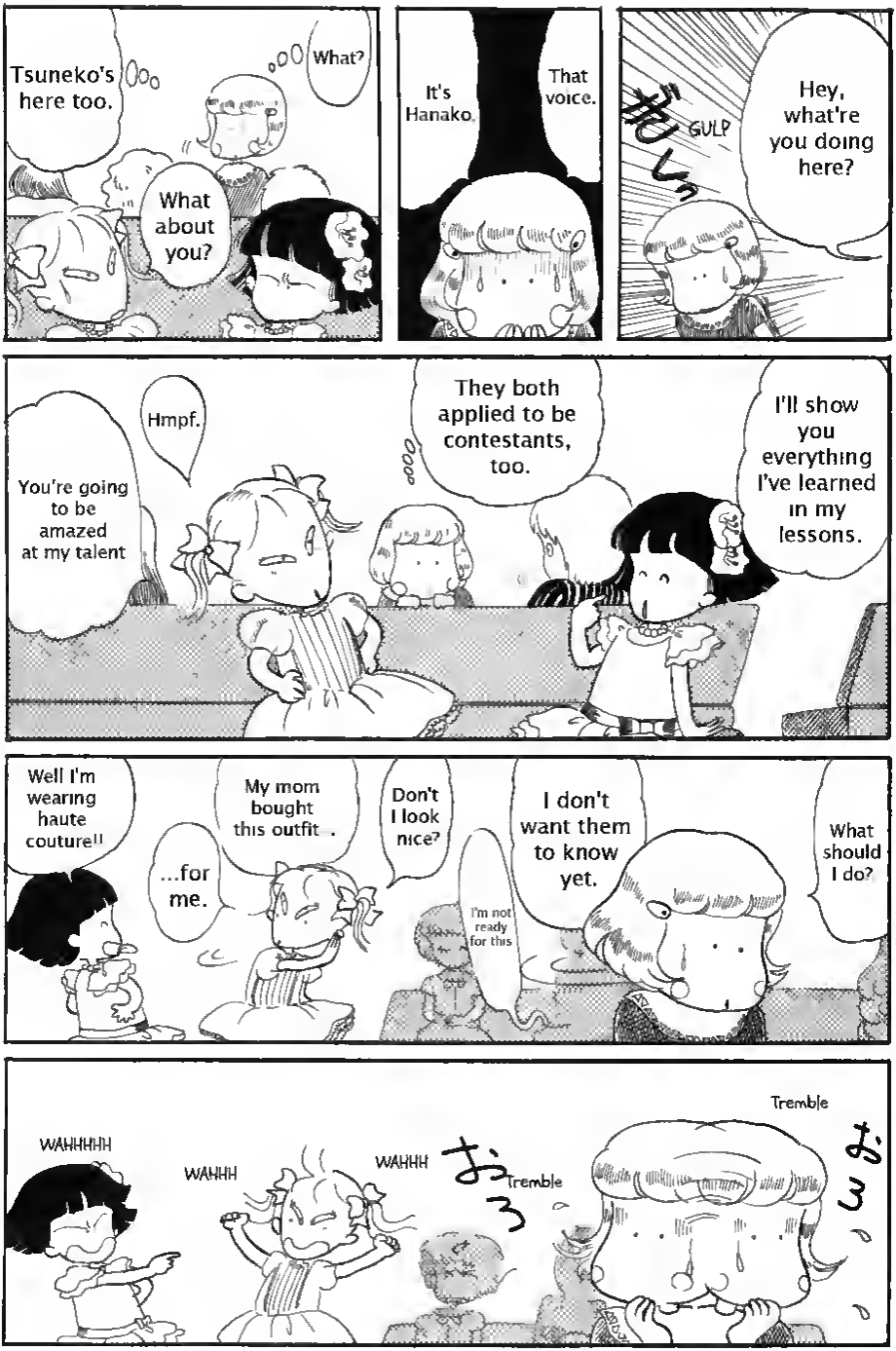



What're you saying?! I'm going to be a star!!
I'm going to be a star.
I'm gonna be a director
I want to be a florist.
I want to be a designer when I grow up.

...
That's what you need
And talent.
You need looks and personality
Hmph.
And I have it all
I'm taking lessons you know.
Piano, and ballet and singing.
Shee wants to be a nursery school teacher.
...I know.
Uh...
Um...
Shee, what do you want to be?
But ...
Aha ha.
Or maybe a mother?
Yeah.
You'll never be a star!
I'm not giving you my autograph!
You're good at taking care of kids.
But ...
Uh-huh.
I guess that's what people think of me.
But ...

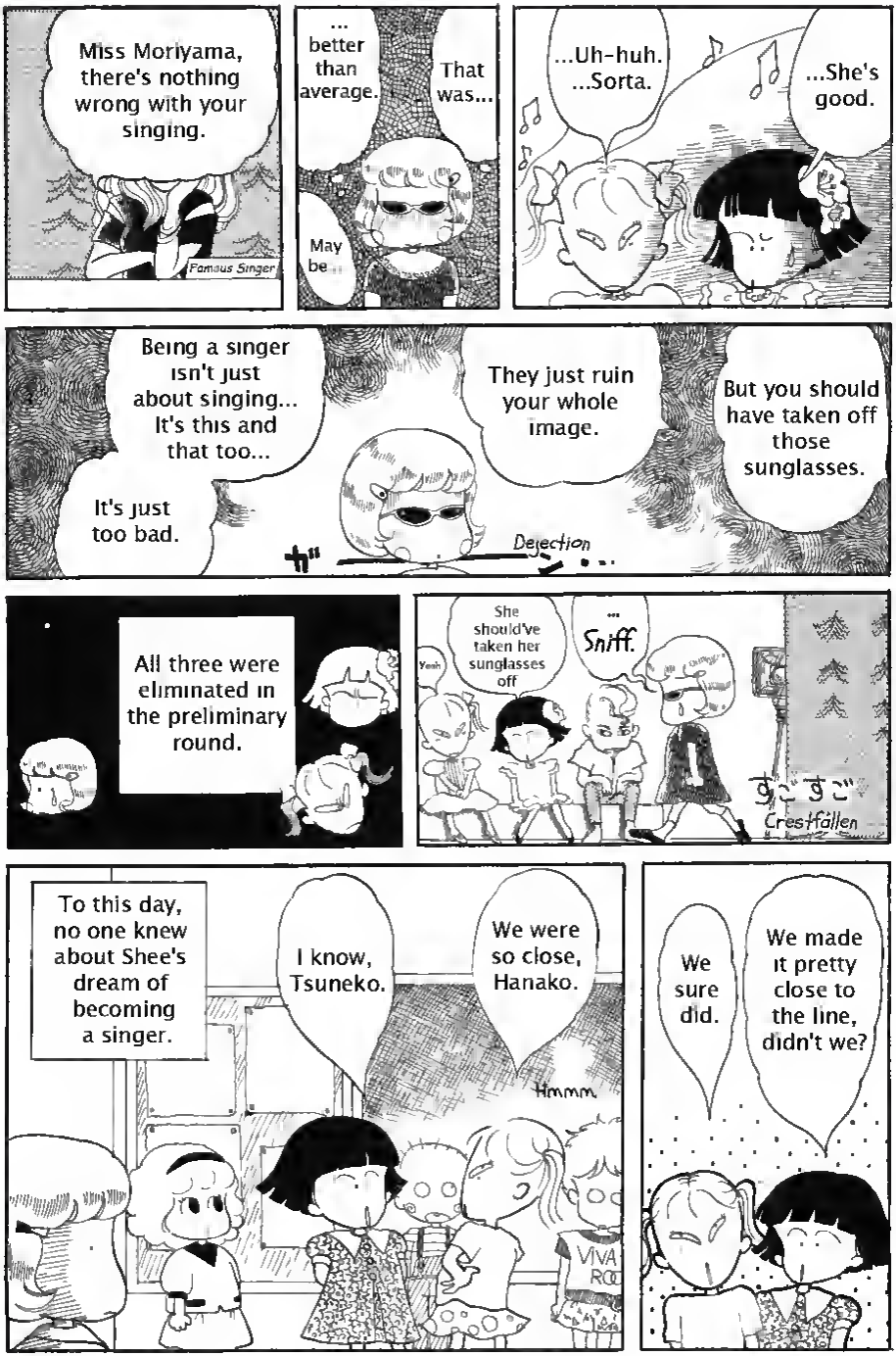

. . .I can't tell them
The truth is, Shee wants to be a singer.
So she never told them about it.
...
There can only be one star.
Stop fighting
Can't you both become stars?
She was afraid they would laugh at her.
born!!
Poster present
Tonki
...
A new idol is born!
On sale July 25
Hitomi Nakano "Something-something"
A new idol is born!


Who's this from?
There's a letter for you, Shee.
Rattle
Rattle
I'm home.
Mom! I passed the screening for the "Star is Born Competition"!
Oh!
Star is Born Competition Green Room
TV
I will ...
...try my best.
I'll tell them if I make it out of the preliminary round.
I didn't tell anybody at school I was coming here.

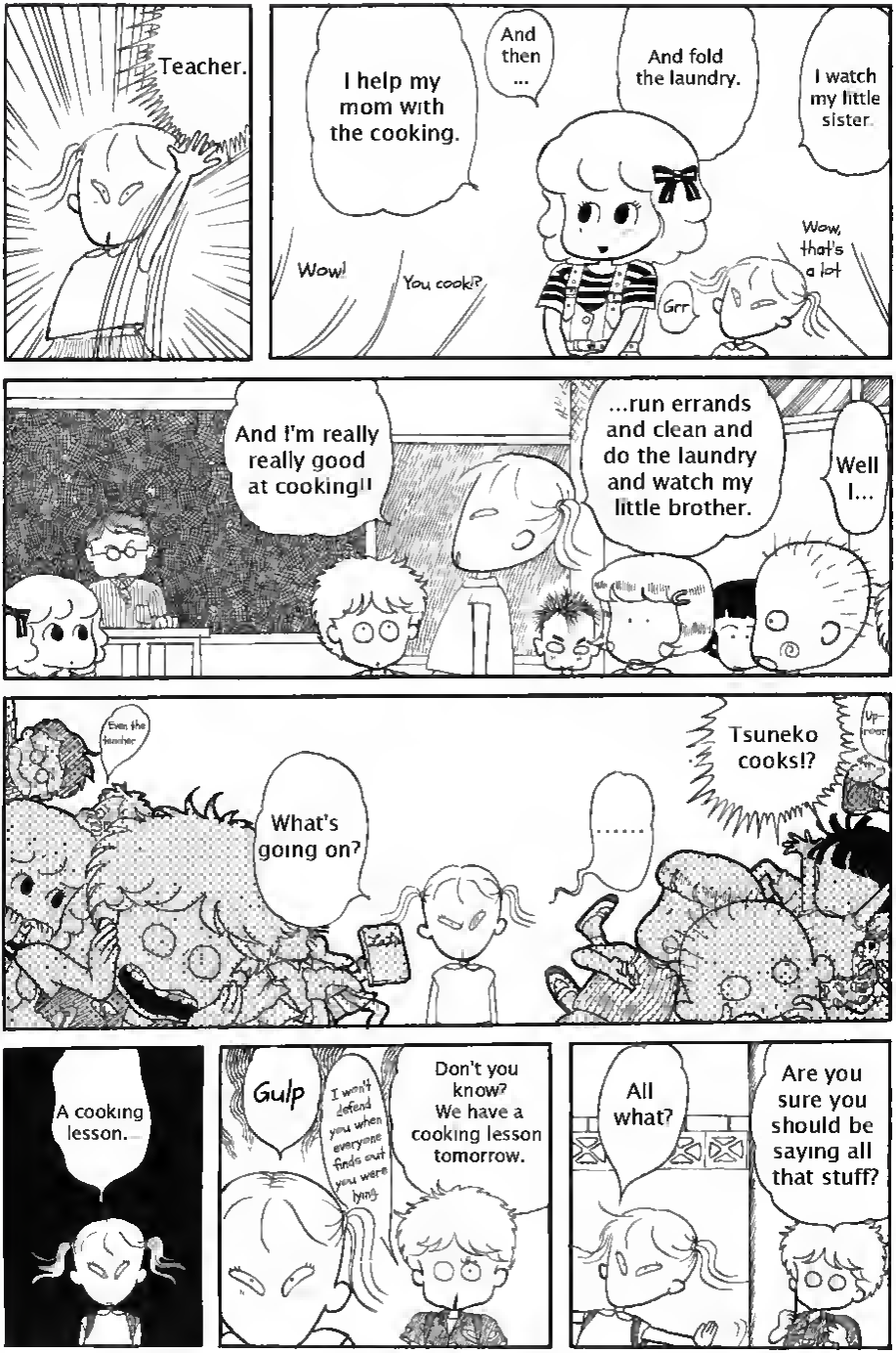

Tsuneko's here too.
What?
What about you?
It's Hanako.
That voice.
GULP
Hey, what're you doing here?
You're going to be amazed at my talent
Hmpf.
They both applied to be contestants, too.
I'll show you everything I've learned in my lessons.
Well I'm wearing haute couture!!
...for me.
My mom bought this outfit .
Don't I look nice?
I'm not ready for this
I don't want them to know yet.
What should I do?
WAHHHHH
WAHHH
WAHHH
Tremble
Tremble

Thanks.
Sure. I'm wearing a sailor uniform for my song anyway.
Could I borrow your sunglasses?
Um ...
in the green room
Thump
Keep quiet
Thump
Thump
Thump
Thump
...no one will recognize me.
Now ...
I'm cuter
Uh-huh.
They don't look that good
Hee hee
I strive to become a star who can sing and dance
No. 21, Hanako Sakurakoji

Were you nervous on stage? Watch your expression, it's really tense.
When you're singing, your dancing is awful, and when you're dancing, your singing is awful.
Yes.
Fini
Sh!
Perfect.
Tee hee.
Skippety
Skip
I want to be a singer that everyone loves.
No. 29 Tsuneko
Thank you.
I think you had better do some more research.
There's a huge gap between the image you have of yourself, and the way you actually look.
Producer
Composer
Oh.
Hm
No. 35, Shizuka Moriyama.
I guess they have identical names.
She's got the same name as Shee.


Miss Moriyama, there's nothing wrong with your singing.
Famous Singer
... better than average.
That was...
May be...
...Uh-huh. ...Sorta.
...She's good.
Being a singer isn't just about singing... It's this and that too...
It's just too bad.
They just ruin your whole image.
But you should have taken off those sunglasses.
Dejection
All three were eliminated in the preliminary round.
She should've taken her sunglasses off
Yeah
... Sniff.
すごすご
Crestfallen
To this day, no one knew about Shee's dream of becoming a singer.
I know, Tsuneko.
We were so close, Hanako.
Hmmm
We sure did.
We made it pretty close to the line, didn't we?

Cynical Hysterie
Hour 12
How to Cook
So, class
What chores do you do around your home?
I wash the dishes after dinner.
I clean the yard and run errands.
Yes.
NEON


Teacher.
I help my mom with the cooking.
And then ...
And fold the laundry.
I watch my little sister.
Wow!
You cook!?
Grr
Wow, that's a lot
And I'm really really good at cooking!!
...run errands and clean and do the laundry and watch my little brother.
Well I...
Even the teacher
What's going on?
.....
Tsuneko cooks!?
Up front
A cooking lesson...
Gulp
I won't defend you when everyone finds out you were lying
Don't you know? We have a cooking lesson tomorrow.
All what?
Are you sure you should be saying all that stuff?

I have to go out for a while.
Oh, Tsuneko.
Um...
Mom
Mm-hm.
too
I'm going.
I'm home.
Dad's going to be late.
Why don't you order some ramen for dinner?
I'll see you later.
Okay then.
Suneo.
I don't want ramen.
Whimper
Mom's not fair
Sulk
What should I make?
No! No! I want ramen!
I'll make you dinner all by myself.
Eh?
Pump

I'm not letting you order ramen.
Hold it.
Hey.
I'll just get ramen for myself.
Menu Ryuen
...with Tsuneko
It's cooking
Tee hee
Sulk
Twiddle
Now you won't be able to call
...keep the soba and sushi menus too.
I'll just ...
Soba Shirubian
Menu Ryuen
That's mincing?
Hey
CHOP
CHOP
Hamburger steak
What are you cooking?
Let's see. "Mince the onion..."
I get it. You're supposed to peel the onion
Stop interrupting!
...But.
The recipe didn't say to do that.
Cut Sauté Mix Fry Eat
How to make hamburger steak
.....
Did you peel the onion?
Shuffle
You're... Scary.

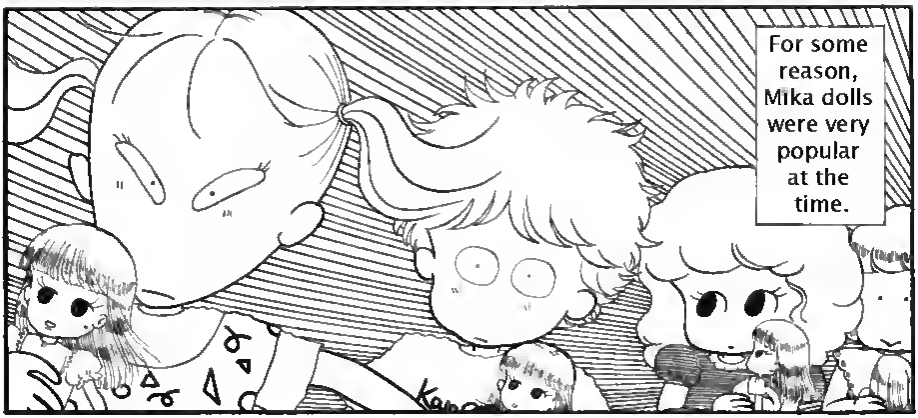
Eeie!
SPIP
SPIP
Oh.
Dump
Then "Put a small amount of oil in a frying pan and sauté the onion until soft."
Maybe washing will peel it.
I'll wash it.
Sulk
Scrub
Scrub
BONK
Stupid
Mutter
Owie
Owie
The oil flew at me!
Ow!
Sizzle
Sizzle
Sizzle
Sizzle
...
Sniffle
Sniffle
Rub
Rub
...Oh no, it's crumbled.
You have to wash ground beef, right?
Splash
I'm hungry.
Then mix in the ground beef
Sulk
Know-it-all.
I'll take it from here
Outta the way

We don't have any more bread.
Tear it up and soak it in water
I need this for the hamburger steak.
What are you doing?
Hey!
I'll eat some bread for now.
Spread
Spread
I'll go buy some bean paste buns.
She's not going to make me eat that.
I put jam on that
Knead
Knead
Just hold on a sec
I'm not eating that
Now I just need to fry them
Pat
Pat
You call yourself my little brother!?
SPLAT
I missed
Here it goes

It's ready!
Mutter
Sizzle
Sizzle
I don't want the oil to splatter on me again.
What are you doing?
Sulk
.....
Gulp
Chew..
You eat it.
Mmph
See?
.....
Boys shouldn't be so sulky.
What?
Don't complain
AUMF
.....
I don't know how to cook it
...We don't have any rice.
RUMBLE
We can just have rice soup.
...The shop's closed.
...We can't. It's after nine o'clock.
Suneo, let's get some ramen.

M... Mom...
Huh!
I'm hungry...
Crawl
I'm home.
SLAM
Teach me.
Please don't leave me alone with Tsuneko again
Twiddle
Welcome back
THUD
Mutter
No!! Do you want me to embarrass myself in cooking class tomorrow!?
It's late, Tsuneko. It's time for bed
ZZZZZ
ZZZZZ
Tsuneko's asleep.
Tsuneko
The next day
Daiken Ground beef
Teacher.

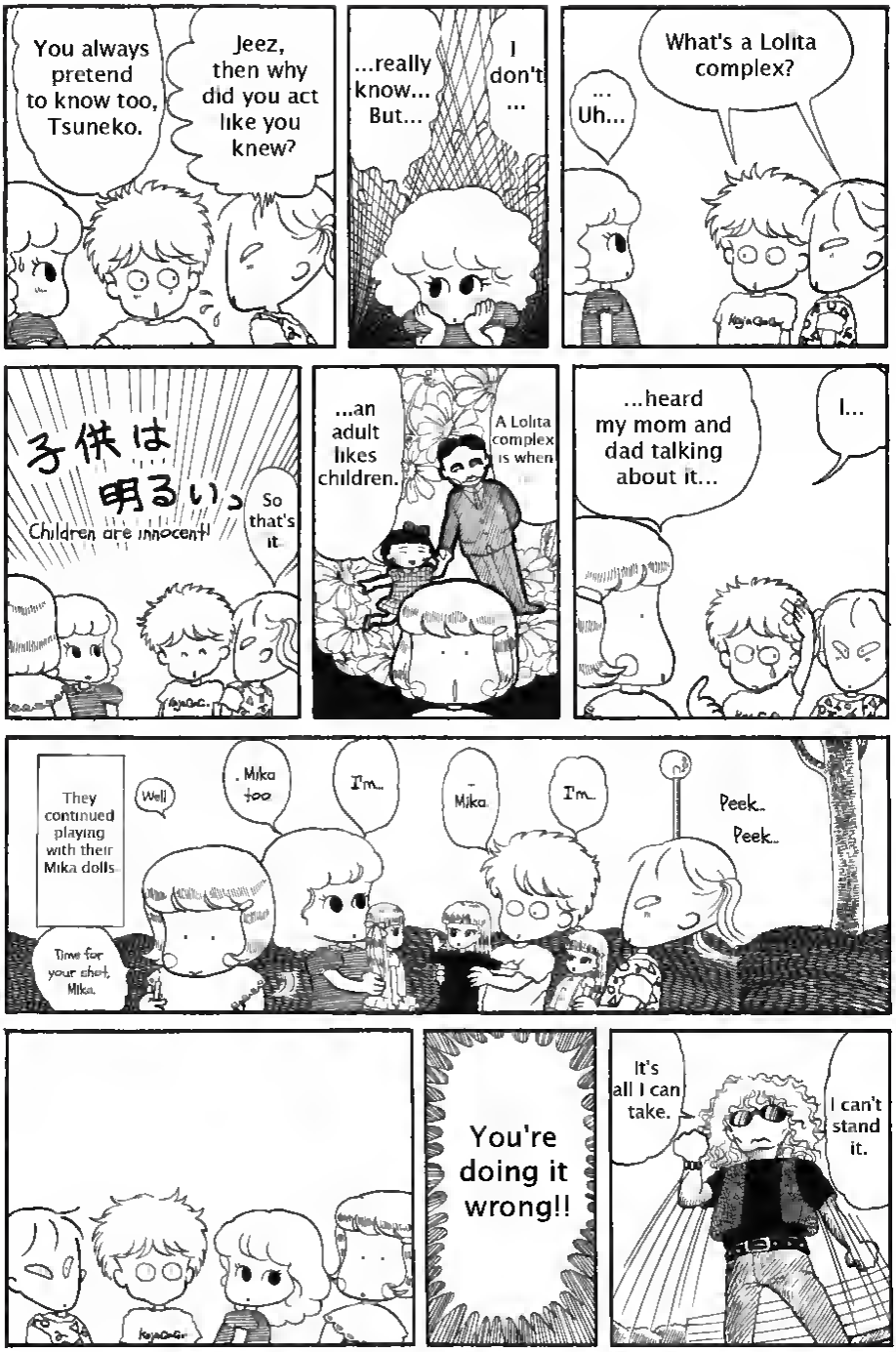
Cynical Hysterie
Hour 13


For some reason, Mika dolls were very popular at the time.

Uzumi.
I have Mika's friend.
I bought Mika's house.
Look.
Mika's House
Did you know Mika has a doctor's set?
I made outfits for Mika.
Chitter
Chitter
Yada
Yada
...but I was always alone.
I tried to find a kindred spirit...
Let's play baseball
I always played with Mika all by myself.
I... I don't want to...
Squeeze
Looks fun
Wish I could join

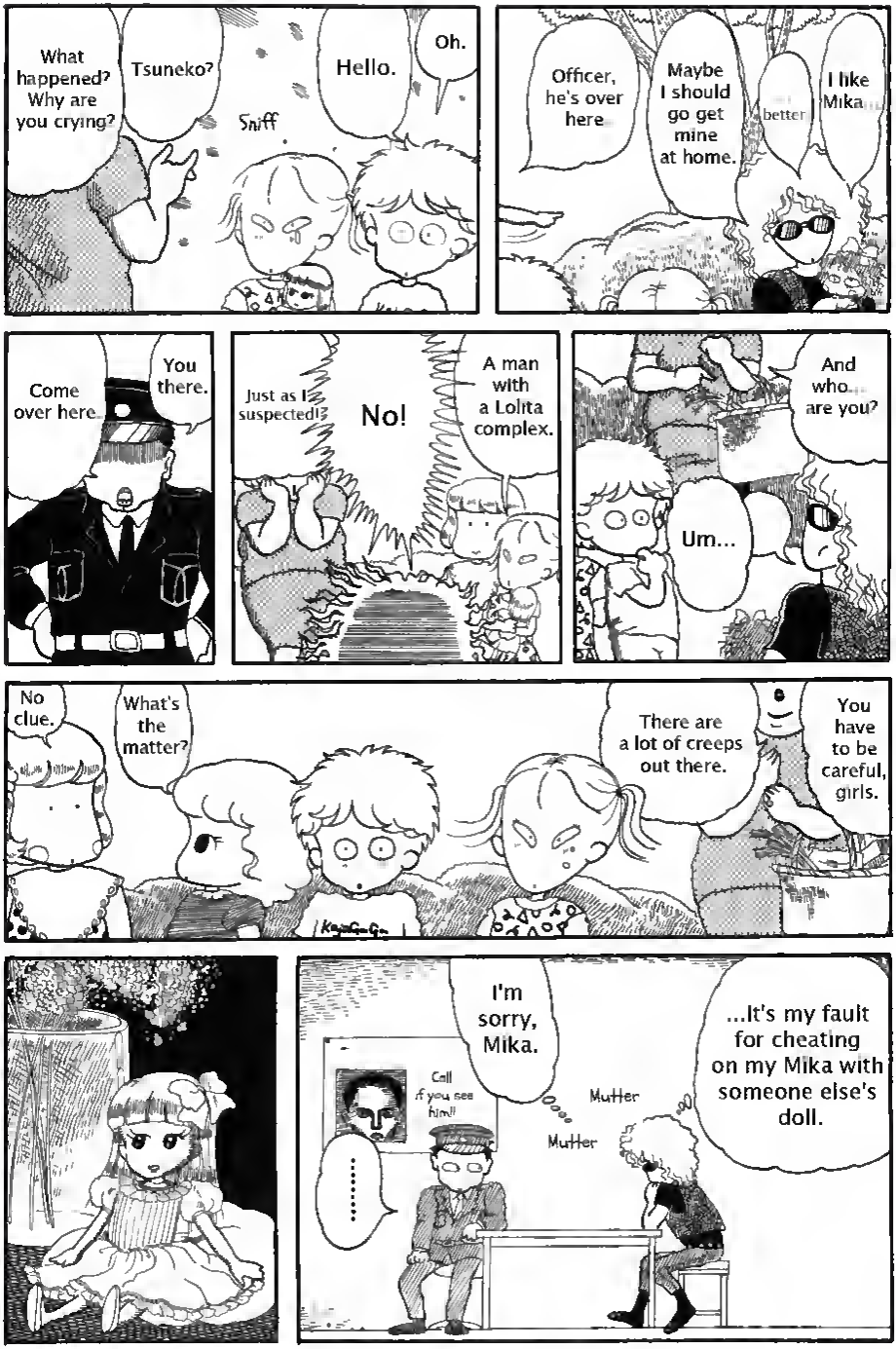
He's been watching us for a while.
Doesn't he look cool?
What he looks like to Tsuneko
That guy on the bench.
Hey.
Hm?
But...
No one has long hair anymore.
Lame!
...made their handling of the Mika dolls very awkward.
ぎくしゃく
Awkward
I'm Mika
Me too
I... I'm Mika.
Me too...
Mike, here's your shot
Feeling conscious of being watched ...
If only I could go back to my home right now...
Why... Why are they moving her like that... The movements are so lifeless.
Frustrated Frustrated
Oooooh_

...and with my beloved Mika in my arms, join their group!
Frustration
Irritation Rage
They're horrible
What a weirdo.
Doesn't it look like that guy is staring right at me?
Especially that one with the slanted eyes.
Muddle
Muddle
...has a Lolita complex?
What if that guy...


You always pretend to know too, Tsuneko.
Jeez, then why did you act like you knew?
...really know... But...
I don't ...
What's a Lolita complex?
... Uh...
子供は明るい。
Children are innocent!
So that's it.
...an adult likes children.
A Lolita complex is when
...heard my mom and dad talking about it...
I...
They continued playing with their Mika dolls.
Well
. Mika too
I'm..
Mika
I'm..
Peek.. Peek..
Time for your shot, Mika.
You're doing it wrong!!
It's all I can take.
I can't stand it.

...not just about moving their parts!!
Philo
Playing with dolls is...
sophy
... Mika.
I'm ...
And at the same time become their mother and their friend.
Like this.
It's mommy
You have to become the doll.
Hey! My Mika ...
Give it!
I'll tell your mother you're studying
It's okay
I'll get in trouble with my mommy.
Oh! But...
I'll play with you, okay?
Mika, aren't you cute?
He's good.
Totally absorbed!
Clap
Clap
Clap
Snap
I'll go get changed
Okay.

Give me back my Mika.
Um...
I... I just like Mika dolls...
N... No...
Do you have a Lolita complex?
HNNG
Oh, it's Tsuneko from next door.
.....
There is nothing wrong with being fond with children.
How?
I think we hurt his feelings.
Sniff
Sniff
No.
Do you get it?
Murmur
Give me back my Mika.
While a person with a Lolita complex does like little girls ages 9 to 14, it doesn't mean any girl will do...
The girls must have a nymphet-like quality
which may not exactly mean that they are beautiful...
Murmur
Murmur
...borrow my Uzumi instead.
I'll let you...
Mister, just give her back her Mika doll.
What's the matter?
I haven't done anything!!
Ah!
...Mika doll!
WAAHH
WAAHH
My...

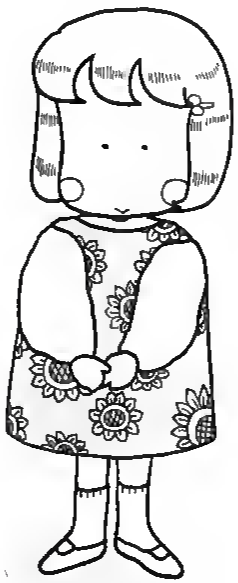

What happened? Why are you crying?
Tsuneko?
Sniff
Hello.
Oh.
Officer, he's over here.
Maybe I should go get mine at home.
better
I like Mika
Come over here.
You there.
Just as I suspected!?
No!
A man with a Lolita complex.
And who are you?
Um...
No clue.
What's the matter?
There are a lot of creeps out there.
You have to be careful, girls.
Call if you see him!!
I'm sorry, Mika.
Mutter
Mutter
...It's my fault for cheating on my Mika with someone else's doll.

Introduction of Characters No.5 SHEE CHAN

Responsible, dependable and caring, she is the glue that keeps the class together.
She's the type who works behind the scenes or takes the backseat to others.

But, while she is good natured and has a reserved manner, she actually...

Wants to be



a singer!

Her dilemma is that her appearance doesn't suit her flashy aspirations

No one knows about her dream.

Introduction of Characters No.6 TSUNTA

"A wallflower.
A real wallflower."

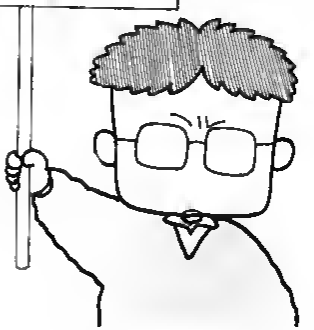
He is actually rather stylish,
but no one notices his Barbiche
and Versace apparel.

He also has a burning passion inside of him.

Wait for it..

Extra report

MANABU KUN

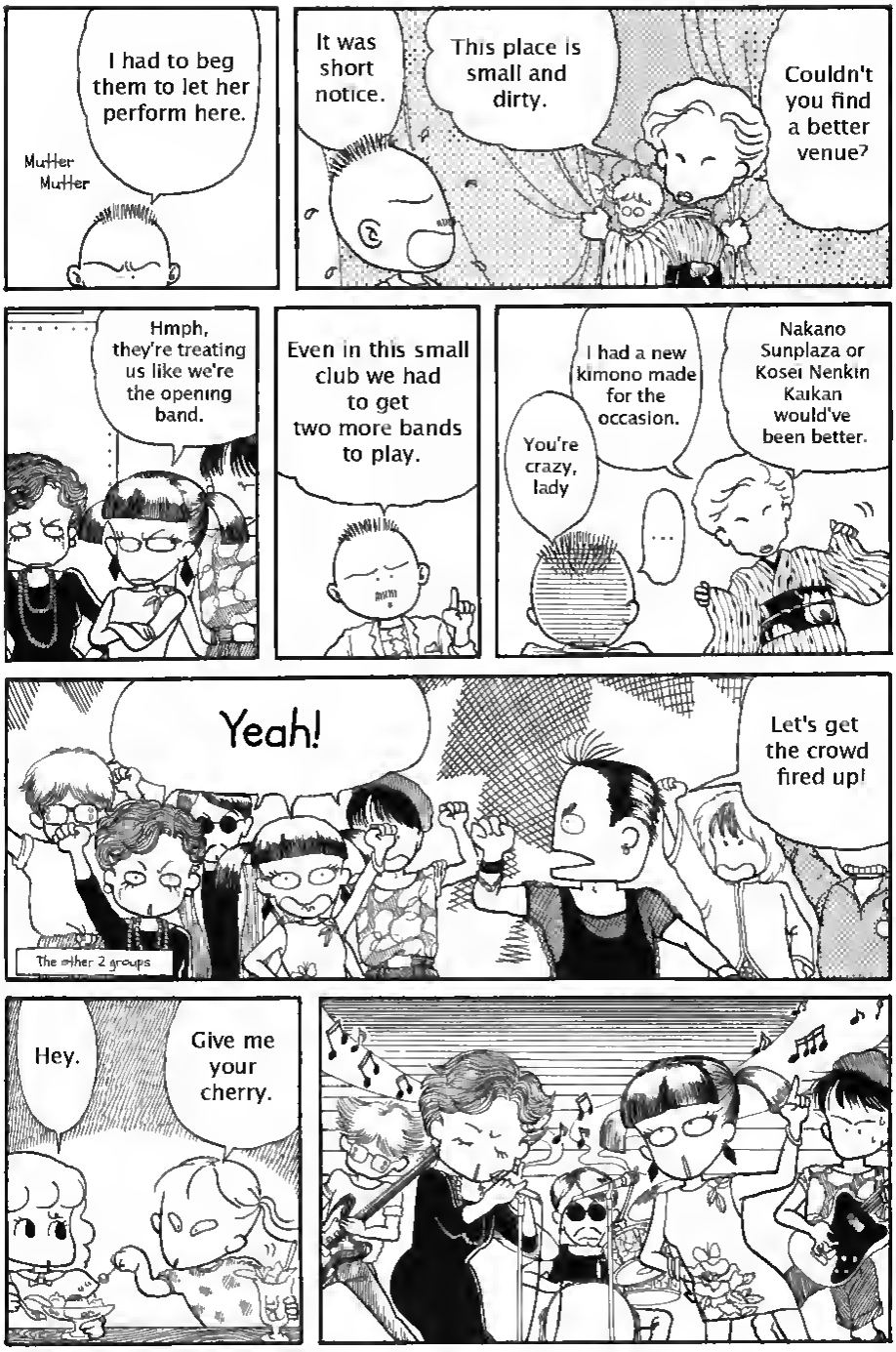


A semi-regular character since the start
of "Cynical"

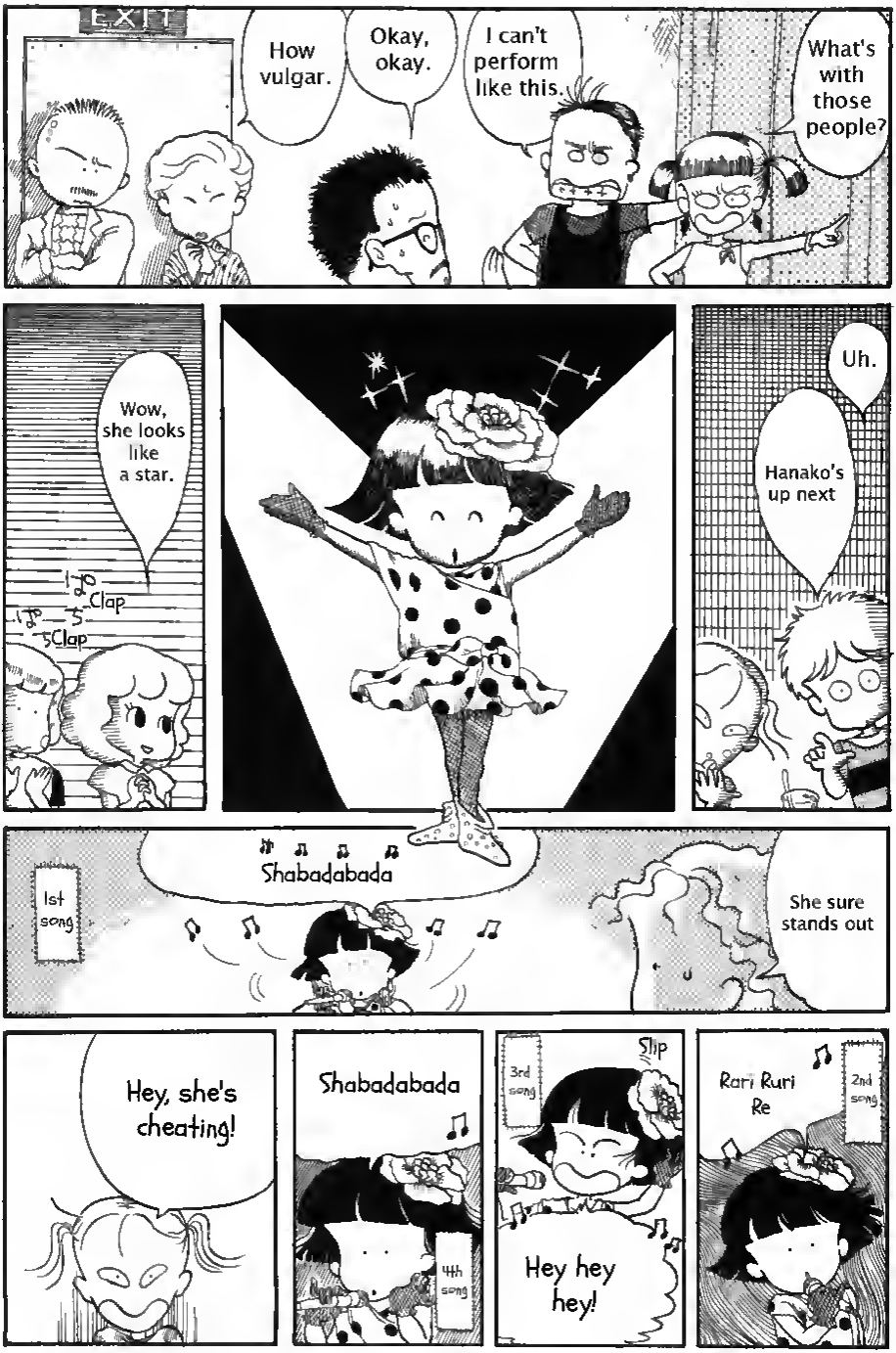
Magical Mystery Hour 3
ドサッ
THUD
ドサッ
THUD
Isn't it a bit early for a debut...?
That's going to be rather difficult
スケジュール表
Hmm.
Arts Production

I'm willing to pay whatever it takes!!
I will cover all the promotional and other expenses myself.
Please come, Miss Keiko.
...And with that...
無理矢理デビュー
Purchased debut
Hanako Sakuraoji
Okay, I'll bring you a bouquet of flowers then.
Don't think too much about it.
Doesn't that place only hold about 50 people?
At the club Alligator.
I remember seeing this insert in today's newspaper.
The first 50 people get in for free.
Where are you performing?

It's filled with kids.
Day of the show.
And we made this sign.
Feigning ignorance
Are you ready to order?
"Go! Go! Hanako Kizakura Elementary School"
I don't know anything.
Hey, there's no TV station here.
Our whole class came.
No!
We have juice and cola...
We don't have that on the menu here...
Flan a la Mode.
A parfait.
What're you going to order?
Menu
Go get some desserts from the cafe next door.
Oh well.
Boss.
Yay
What should I do?
Flan a la Mode
A parfait or nothing!!
I want a parfait too.
What's today's homework?
Chatter
Chatter
Stop it
Yada Yada
So yeah
Man, I hate kids


I had to beg them to let her perform here.
Mutter Mutter
It was short notice.
This place is small and dirty.
Couldn't you find a better venue?
Hmph, they're treating us like we're the opening band.
Even in this small club we had to get two more bands to play.
I had a new kimono made for the occasion.
Nakano Sunplaza or Kosei Nenkin Kaikan would've been better.
You're crazy, lady
...
Yeah!
Let's get the crowd fired up!
The other 2 groups
Hey.
Give me your cherry.

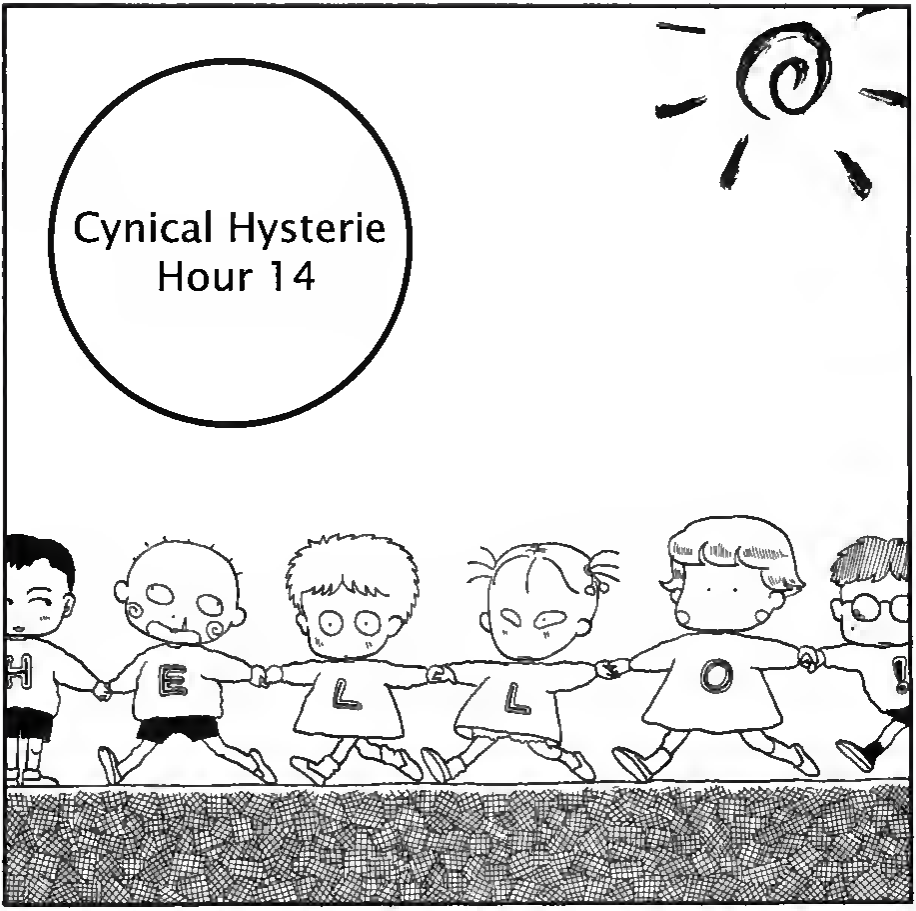
BONK
Hey.
Give me a bit of your flan too.
A— all right.
Your turn.
…
Where's my spoon?
What a waste.
You spilled it.
Hey!
Huh?
VEEER VEEEE
VREEER
Let's rock!
WAIEEEE
TA-DUM DUM DUM
I said get a rag!
TWIP
I… I rocked it!
Come on!
I can't hear you.

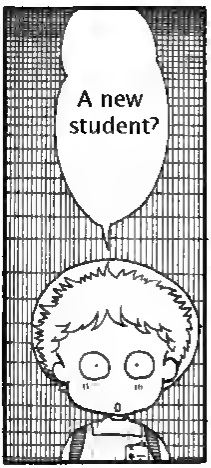

EXIT
How vulgar.
Okay, okay.
I can't perform like this.
What's with those people?
Wow, she looks like a star.
Clap
Clap
Uh.
Hanako's up next
1st song
Shabadabada
She sure stands out
Hey, she's cheating!
Shabadabada
4th song
3rd song
Slip
Hey hey hey!
Rari Ruri Re
2nd song

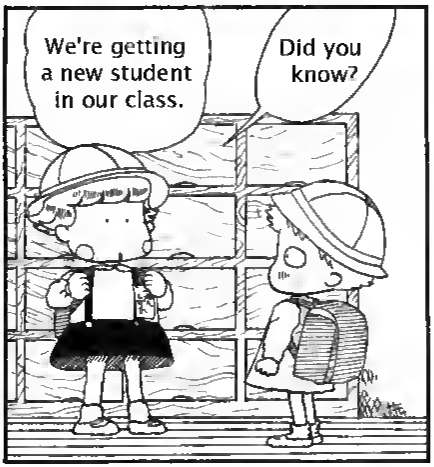
I don't have a repertoire yet
I can't help it.
Well.
Wasn't that the first song you sang?
What are you doing!?
Gimme the mic.
Uh.
I'll sing then.
Umf
Tawa~shi~
Yagirino~
Ow ow ow
I'll put this on too.
Hee hee
Hah! Tsuneko knocked her out with her elbow.
You guys!
Stop it.
Hanako!!
It's a fight. A fight!
How dare you!
Woah

Me too.
I... I want to sing too.
A pang in your heart
I'll sing a number
♪ A rose is a rose... ♪
Shuffle
ずら…
Shuffle
MEN'S GIBI
After all, I had a new kimono made.
I will sing as well!
Hey, no cuts
How about the Budokan Hall next time?
I'll have another kimono made.
Pamphlet
What should I do with the flowers?

Cynical Hysterie Hour 14



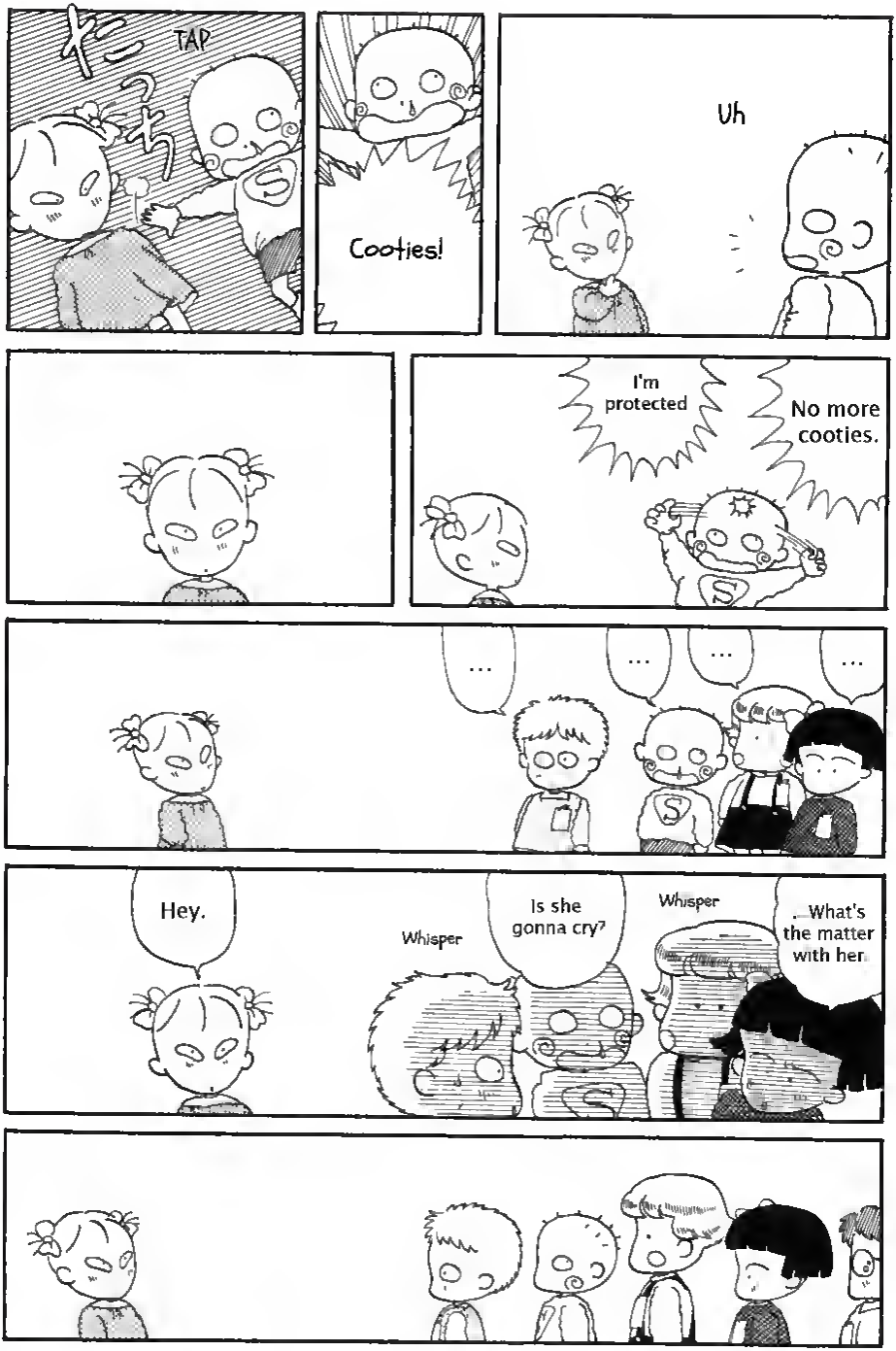


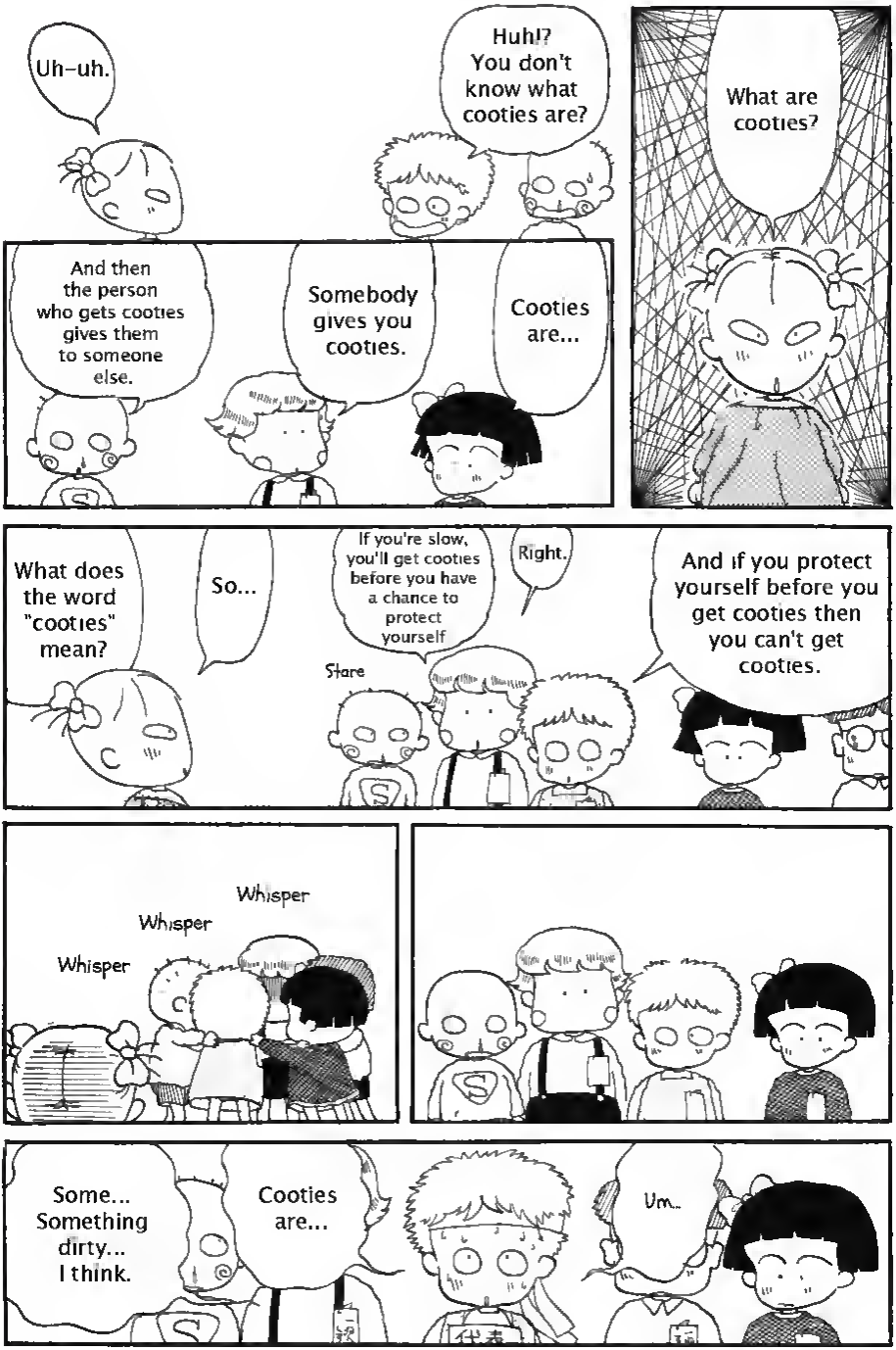


But there are exceptions
New students usually seem cute or smart.
Oh.
She was really cute.
I saw her in the teacher's room just now.
DING DONG
キンコーン
カンコーン...
DING DONG
She looked cute before.
That's weird.
You lied, Shee.
Maybe it's the ribbons.
Please be nice to her.
This is Tsuneko. She's going to be your new classmate from today.
Ow!
Yo!
ボン
BAM
Tsuneko, let's play.
Pass! Pass!
Tsk!
Clap
Clap
Oh no, I'm all dirty.
Brush
Brush
Bull's eye!

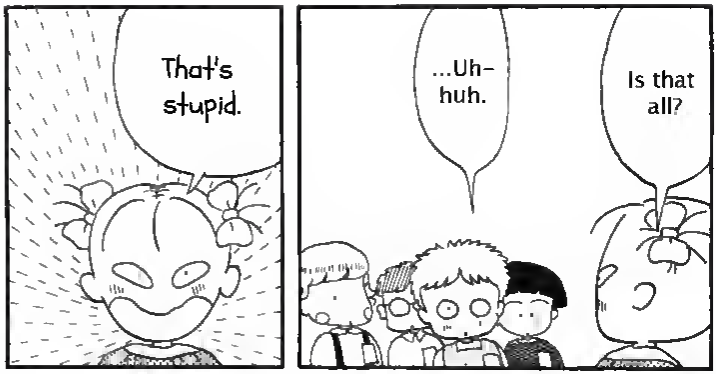
Here comes the discus shot!
Shee got it!
Oh, it's Shee.
Catch
Oh Tsunta!
WHAP
WOMP
As my editor says... It was really scary!
The discus shot
The "discus shot" involves throwing the ball sideways. It takes skill, and only a few kids can do it right. It packs a punch and makes everyone nervous.
This is my chance.
I got sand in my shoe.
Time!
I called time out!
Everything is forgiven when a time out is called.
Ow!
ボン
BONK
Ha!

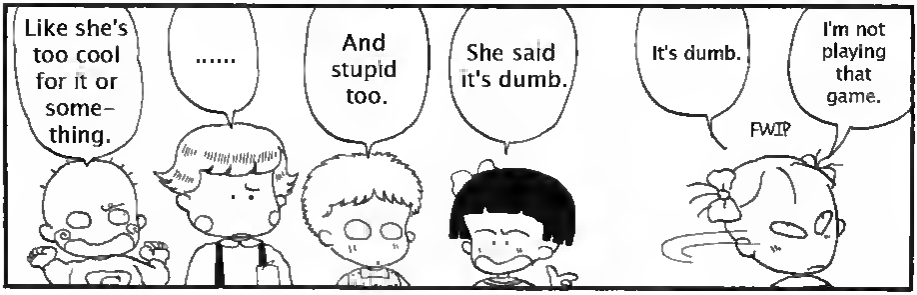
DASH
DASH
Well we do.
We didn't do that at my old school.
When something is not forgiven, a fight breaks out.
AAH
Ah!
cooties.
You've got...
Glance
Glance
Cooties.
Cooties.
I'm protected
He's got cooties.
Ack...
My legs are crossed Cooties can't get me
Lookie lookie
Aha haha.
I'm gonna give you cooties Hanako


TAP
Cooties!
Uh
I'm protected
No more cooties.
...
...
...
...
Hey.
Whisper
Is she gonna cry?
Whisper
...What's the matter with her.

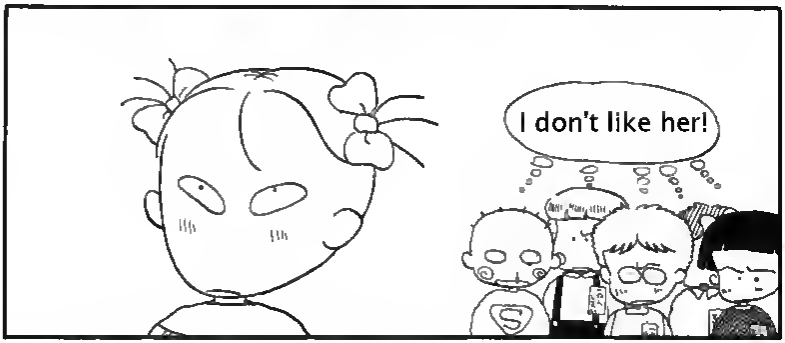

Uh-uh.
Huh!? You don't know what cooties are?
What are cooties?
And then the person who gets cooties gives them to someone else.
Somebody gives you cooties.
Cooties are...
What does the word "cooties" mean?
So...
If you're slow, you'll get cooties before you have a chance to protect yourself
Right.
Stare
And if you protect yourself before you get cooties then you can't get cooties.
Whisper
Whisper
Whisper
Some... Something dirty... I think.
Cooties are...
Um...

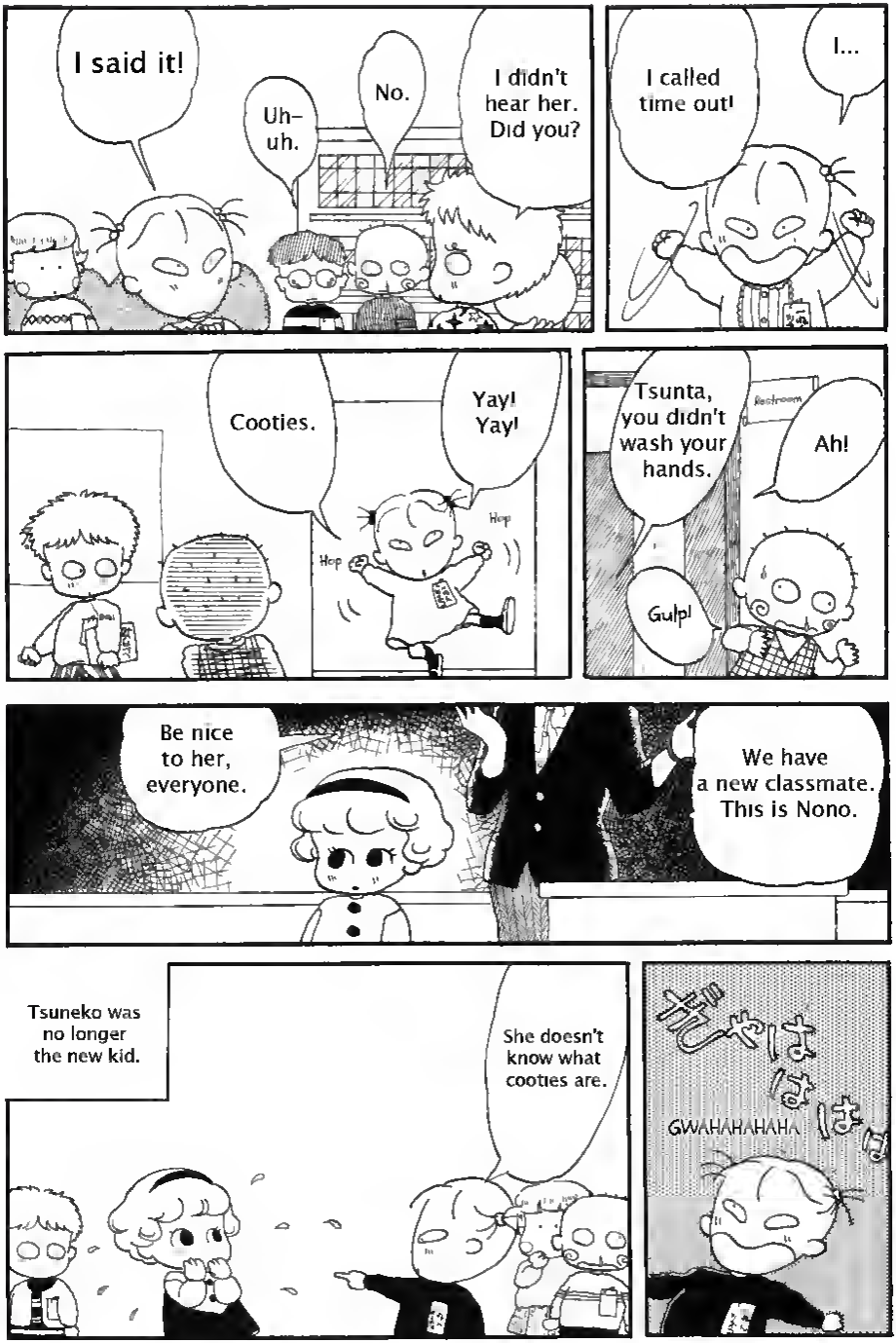
When you think about it, it is kind of silly. That's why adults don't talk about cooties.

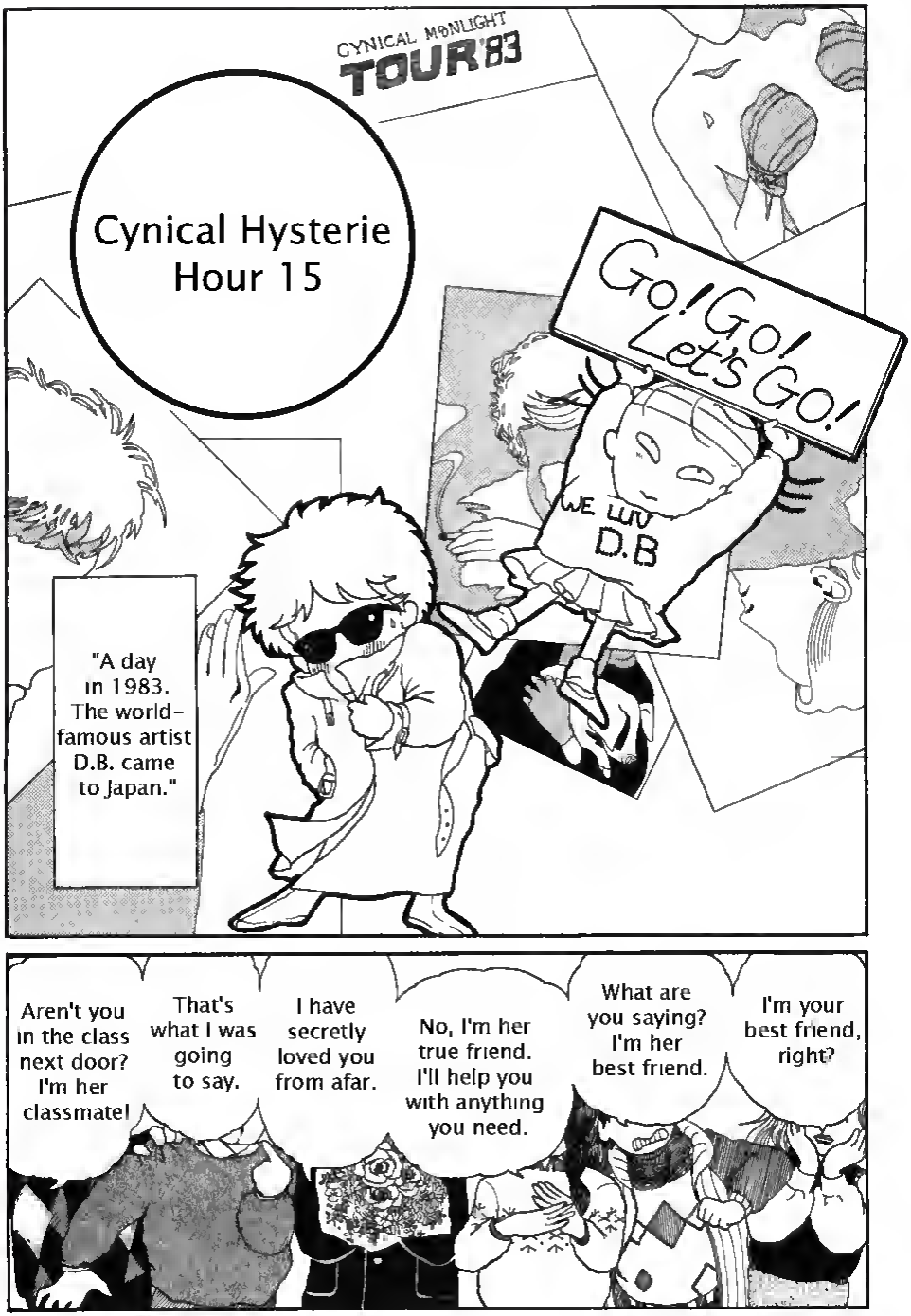




No one likes smug kids.




I said it!
Uh–uh.
No.
I didn't hear her. Did you?
I called time out!
I...
Cooties.
Yay! Yay!
Hop
Hop
Tsunta, you didn't wash your hands.
Restroom
Ah!
Gulp!
Be nice to her, everyone.
We have a new classmate. This is Nono.
Tsuneko was no longer the new kid.
She doesn't know what cooties are.
GWAHAHAHAHA


CYNICAL MONLIGHT
TOUR'83
Cynical Hysterie
Hour 15
GO! GO! Let's GO!
WE LUV D.B
"A day in 1983. The world-famous artist D.B. came to Japan."
Aren't you in the class next door? I'm her classmate!
That's what I was going to say.
I have secretly loved you from afar.
No, I'm her true friend. I'll help you with anything you need.
What are you saying? I'm her best friend.
I'm your best friend, right?

It's mine! Mine!
Me!
Give it to me!
This, right?
Flip
I know what you all want.
...I can see through you.
...this is my little way of getting back at them.
It's not Matchy's concert, huh
Since I can't go myself...
Hmpf.
I already know who I'm giving it to. Sorry.
Tough luck.
Bye-bye.
BUMP
Oh
What?
I'm okay!
I'm wearing wool under-pants.
Here's your dinner.
Do you have the money and the ticket?
Yes.
The stadium gets cold, so take a cushion. Are you cold?
What? You don't know what artist means?
?
Arteest?
Maybe you don't know about him, but he's a very famous artist.
So am I.
I'm going to the concert.
What about you Tsuneko, with that cushion?
Kiriko, where are you going?

It says D.B.
Umm... Let's see.
...So who's concert are you going to?
What's an arteest?
Right. Sorry.
You mean arteest.
Of... Of course I do.
It's common knowledge.
I'm going to see D.B. too.
My cousin couldn't go so I'm going in her place.
Well... you know...
It's not like I want to go...
Are they not cool?
What's going on?
Whimper
Whaaaa
Show me yours.
There were people who stood in line three months ago for this ticket.
Those tickets were so hard to get.
You're lucky Tsuneko.
Oh.
I had a really hard time.
Pree-mium?
30,000 yen?!
In Scalper price.
This ticket costs a Premium. I heard it costs 30,000 yen!
Scalper?
?
?
Areena?
You're in the Arena?!
What's that?
For good children
Easy explanation
1) Arena Seats in the center of arena. The best seats
2) Premium The commission when reselling hard to come by tickets.
3) Scalper price A price with a premium attached.

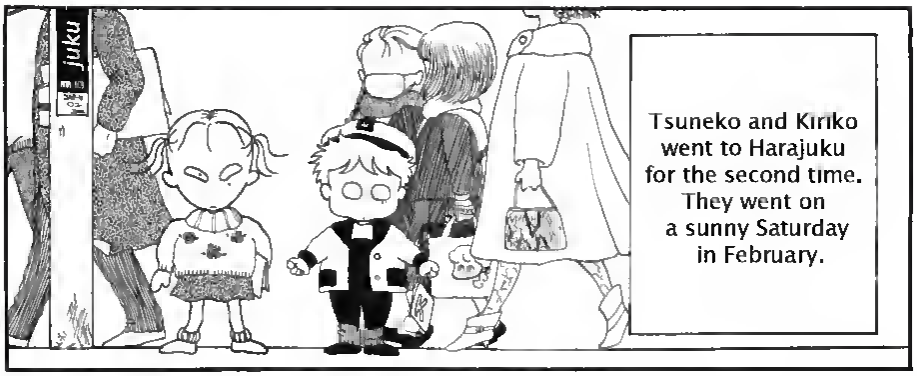
What a ticket.
30,000 yen...
Umm... Preemium, Areena, Scalper... Right?
Well yeah, it's an Areena and Preemium of Scalper!
BWAHAHAHA
I'm...
... jealous.
Well it must be the Preemium Scalper Areena tickets.
I... knew that...
They're going to the concert, of course.
What're all these people?
What is this?
Subway
Tozai Line
Kudanshita Station
DB cakes
Kudanshita specialty
During the concert
DB cakes
Store
I have an Areena Scalper Preemium ticket!
I'm not in the wrong line.
Maybe she went the wrong way.
What? Is that a little kid?
Grr
Okay
Well, see ya.
I'm in the stands
Arena seats

Thump
Thump
Thump
Rip Thump
Ticket, please.
Was it Areena then Preemium?
Ah.
Or was it Scapler ...?
Silence
Did I mix up the order?
Huh?
What a good seat.
Oof!
Here it is.
Seat F59.
Flip
I got the Scapler Areena Preemium.
Hee hee.
That little kid is all by herself.
Feeling
superior!
Good evening, everyone!
It's starting.
Silence
Since it's a Scapler Preemium Areena ticket.
Hop
Hop
I can't see.
AIEEEEE

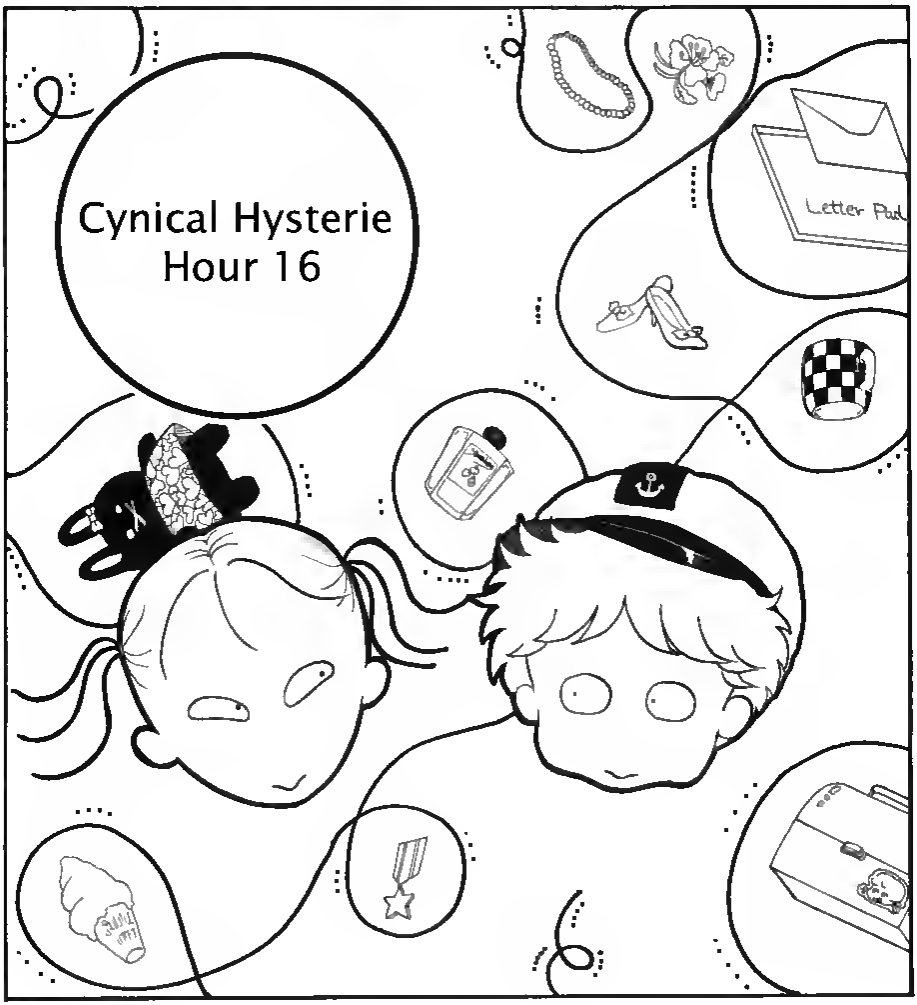
Clap Clap
Clap Clap
Clap Clap Clap
Clap Clap Clap Clap
...in time to the rhythm, huh?
You clap ...
Hmph
ばちっ
CLAP
Here we go.
Strum
Silence
♫ BGM Space Oddity ♪
What is Tsuneko doing?
Shh!
Shh!
Shh!
Shh!
ちゃんかちゃん
Cha cha cha
ちゃんかちゃん
Cha cha cha
わ!
Yeah!
Next Song
♪ BGM Let's dance ♫

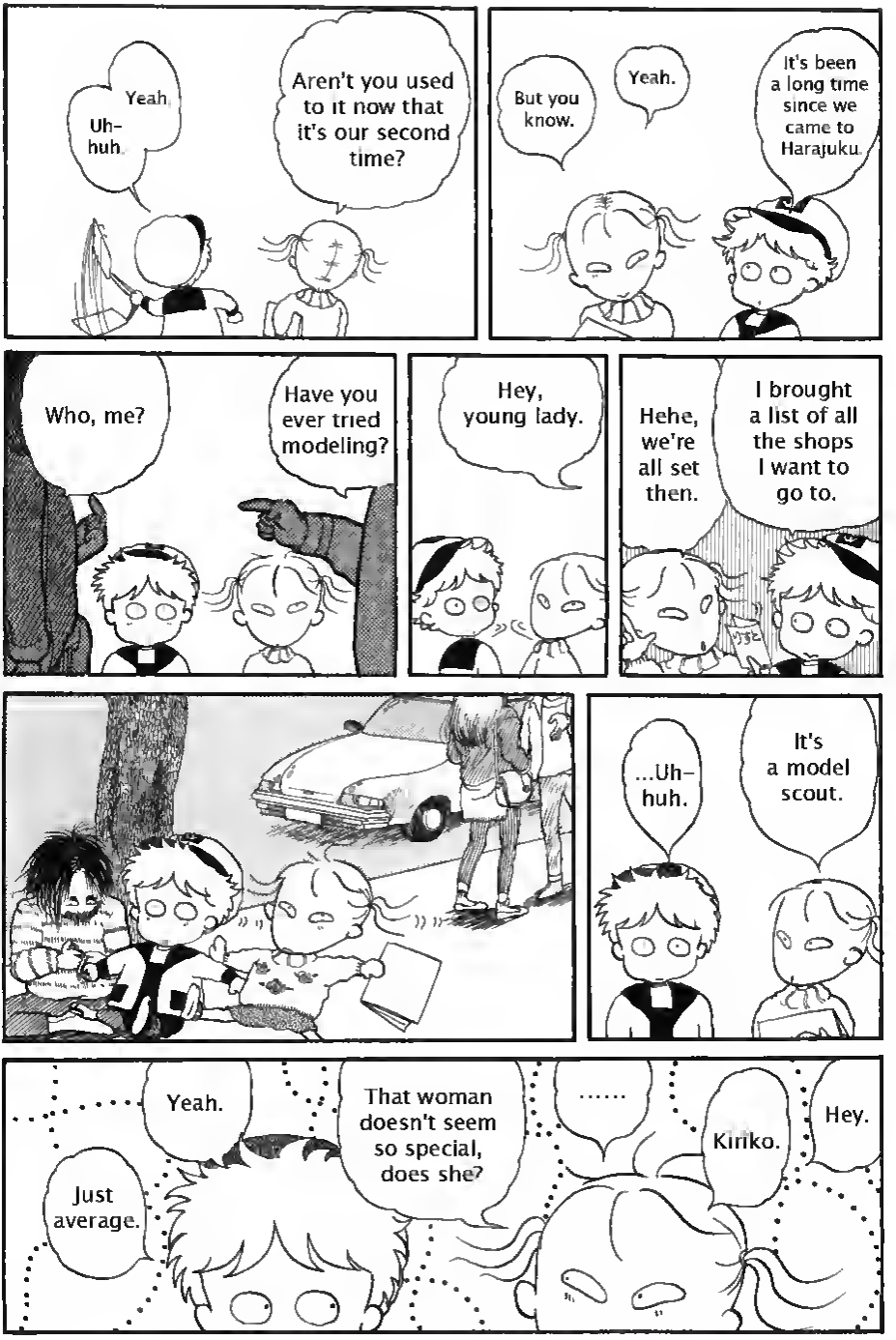
I'm supposed to dance.
I see.
Swive
Hahaha! This is fun.
Okay, I'm getting into it now.
Cloppety
Clop
Rustle rustle.
Concerts are exhausting!
Phew!
That's so em-barrassing
Eew, what is Tsuneko doing?
Over here!
...
YAAAAAHHH
Owl
BONK
あ
Aaaa
ん

AAAHH
AAAHH
.....
Aieee!
Pop
あ
Aaaah
ん
SCOOP
» » »
Plop
Plop
Today's concert is finished.
WAAA
WAAA
WAAA
DASH
たたたたっ
Squish
in The Box
I gave it to the person next to me.
...Tsuneko, didn't you bring your dinner?
Many Thanks!
Rika Uezumi
Mari Hashimoto
Mari Nakamura
& Her Friend
Hey Kiriko, let's go get a hamburger.
That was awe-some!



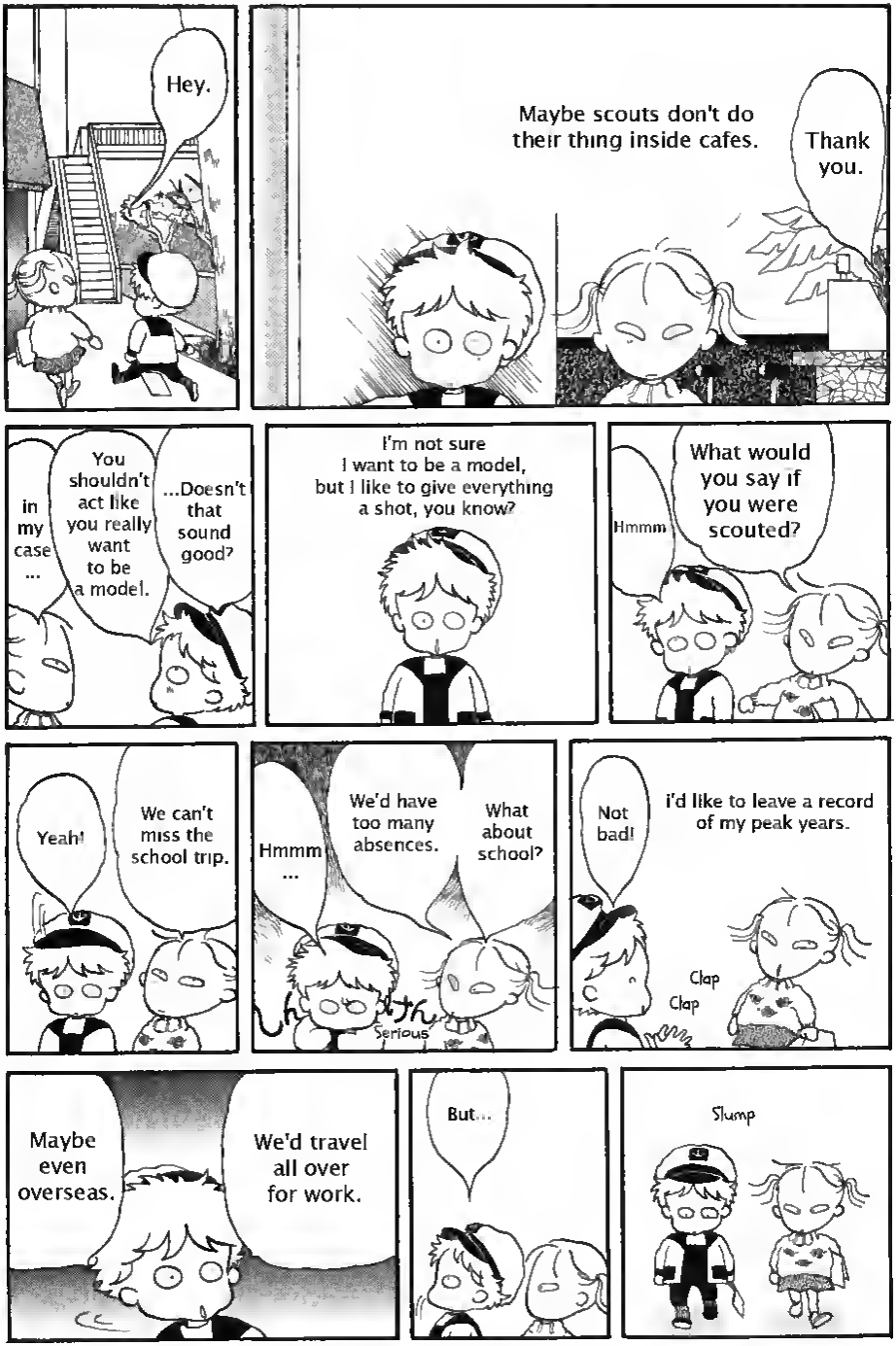
Cynical Hysterie Hour 16

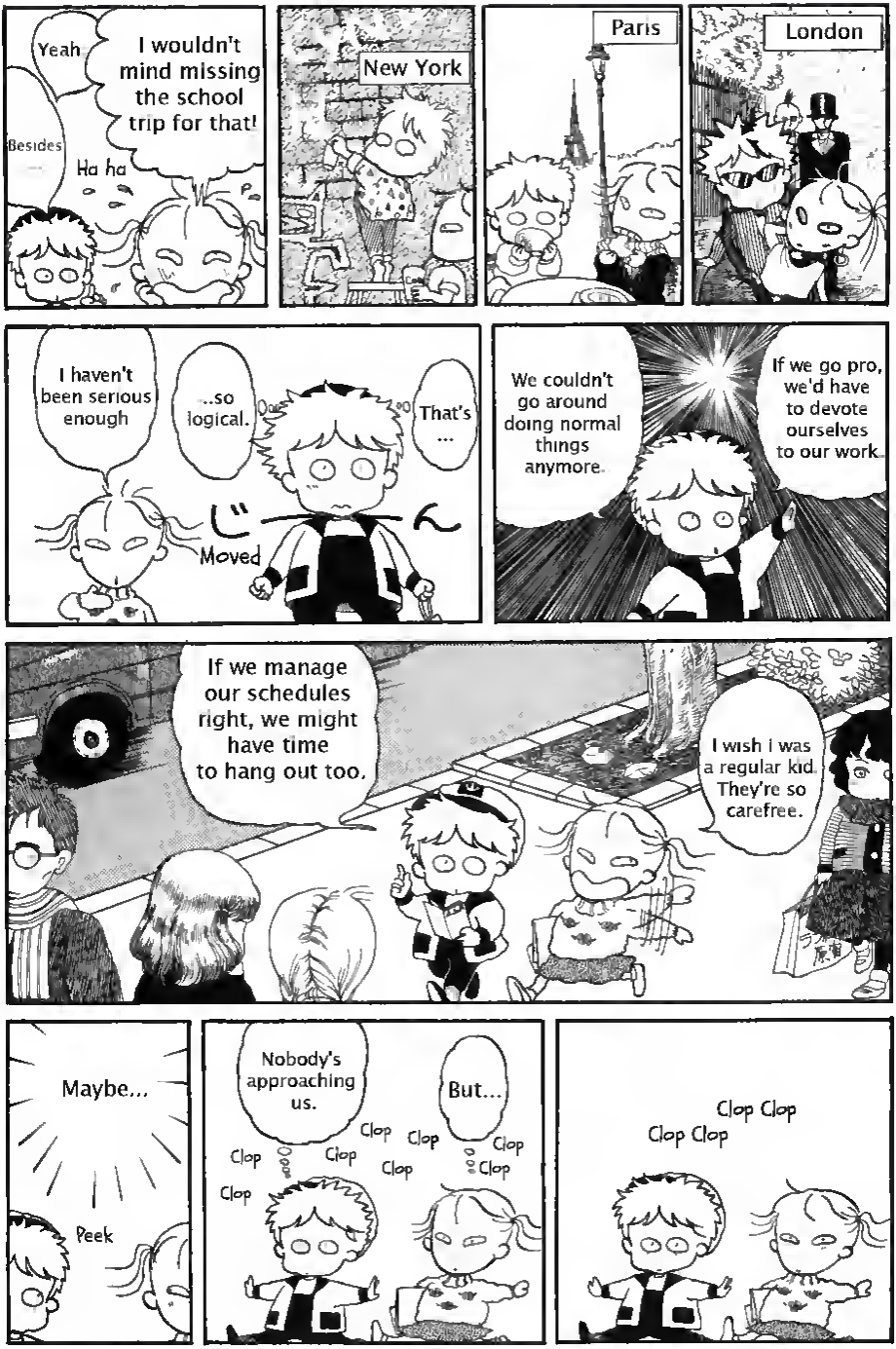


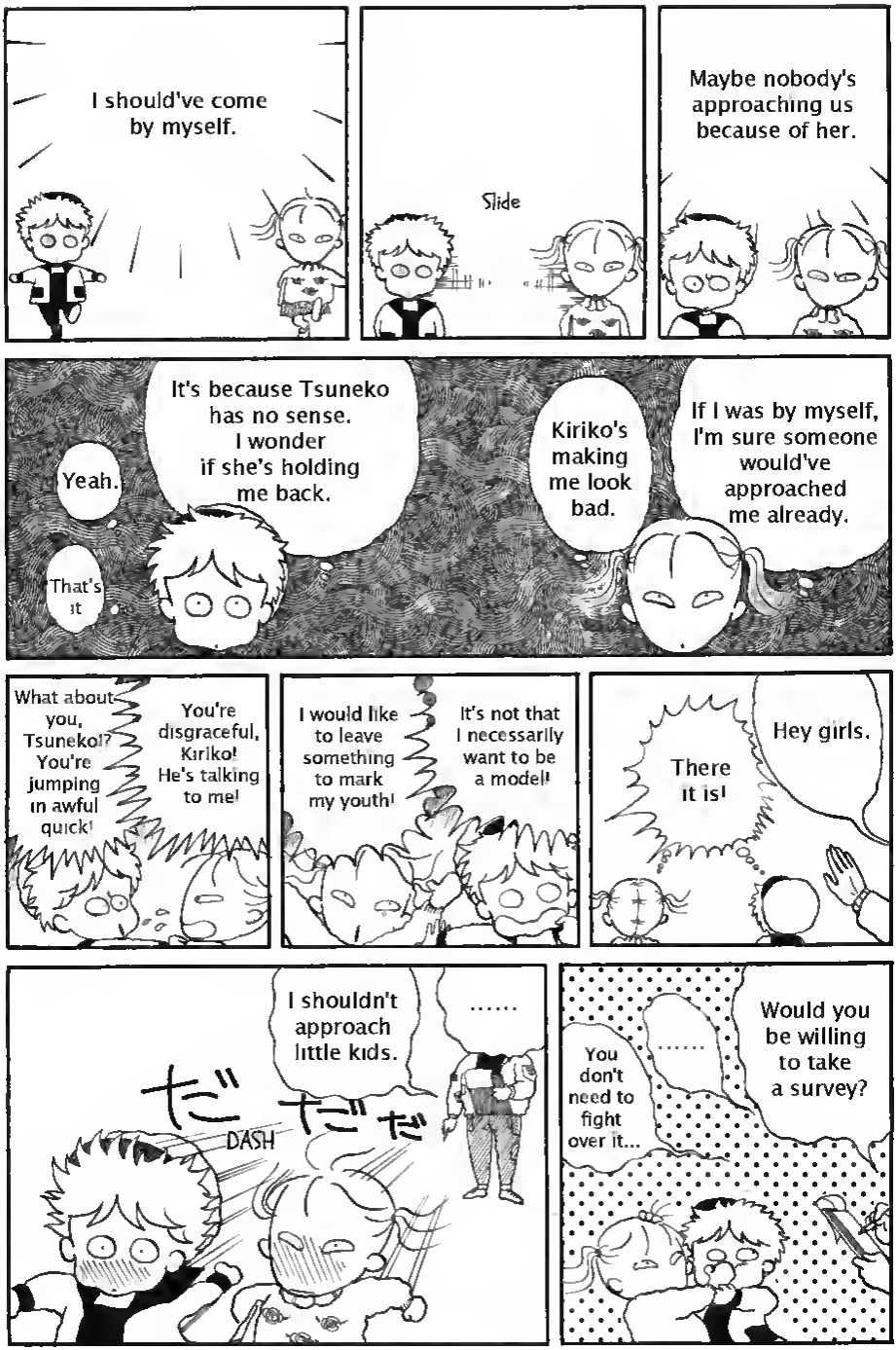

Yeah.
Uh-huh.
Aren't you used to it now that it's our second time?
But you know.
Yeah.
It's been a long time since we came to Harajuku.
Who, me?
Have you ever tried modeling?
Hey, young lady.
Hehe, we're all set then.
I brought a list of all the shops I want to go to.
...Uh-huh.
It's a model scout.
Yeah.
Just average.
That woman doesn't seem so special, does she?
.....
Kiriko.
Hey.

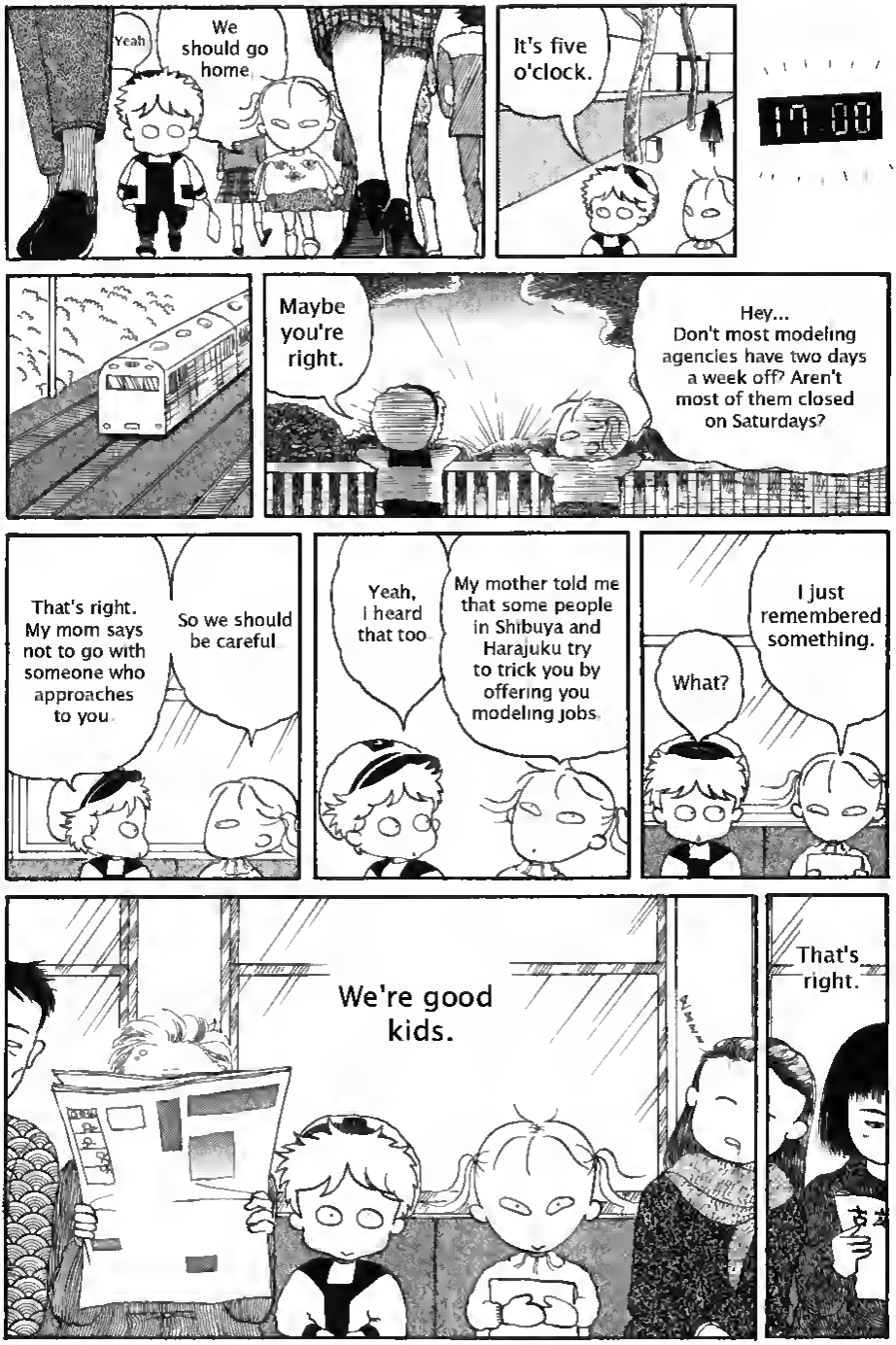
Could we be scouted for modeling jobs?
...
Yeah.
...We look pretty attractive, don't you think?
Daydream
ぼ～～っ
Yeah...
Let's.
Let's go somewhere trendy.
Let's take a break.
Brush Brush
Uh-huh.
Are... Are you okay?
Hmph
Ah.
THWUMP
Tsuneko, you should cross your legs. They can see from outside
Ha ha!
A scout might like the way our faces are lit up through the window..
Yeah.
...The table by the window looks cool.

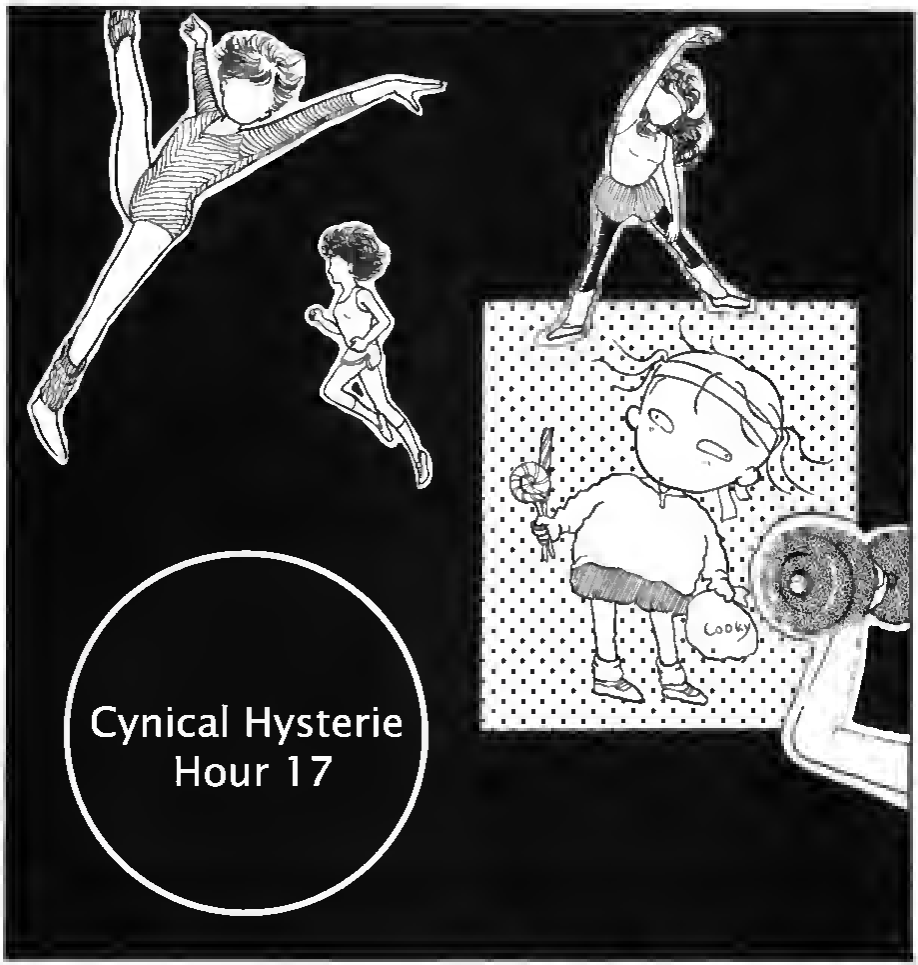
Yeah... Right.
Don't worry. Even if we're scouted, it'll only be as child models.
Uh ...
Maybe a parfait is kind of childish.
.....
Hey.
Trying to exhibit their cuteness and innocence
What's important is you, not your clothes.
It's fine.
Maybe no one is approaching us because my sweater is dirty.
It's your potential
And it was brand new too...
Uhhh.
Since you know, i got it dirty just now
Does this sweater make me look weird?
When I fell
You're right.
Yeah.
Should we get going?

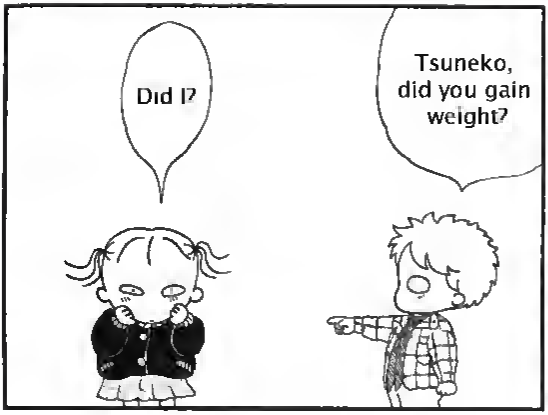

Hey.
Maybe scouts don't do their thing inside cafes.
Thank you.
in my case ...
You shouldn't act like you really want to be a model.
...Doesn't that sound good?
I'm not sure I want to be a model, but I like to give everything a shot, you know?
Hmmm
What would you say if you were scouted?
Yeah!
We can't miss the school trip.
Hmmm ...
We'd have too many absences.
What about school?
Serious
Not bad!
I'd like to leave a record of my peak years.
Clap
Clap
Maybe even overseas.
We'd travel all over for work.
But...
Slump


Yeah
I wouldn't mind missing the school trip for that!
Besides
Ha ha
New York
Paris
London
I haven't been serious enough
...so logical.
That's ...
Moved
We couldn't go around doing normal things anymore.
If we go pro, we'd have to devote ourselves to our work.
If we manage our schedules right, we might have time to hang out too.
I wish I was a regular kid. They're so carefree.
Maybe...
Peek
Nobody's approaching us.
But...
Clop
Clop Clop
Clop Clop


I should've come by myself.
Slide
Maybe nobody's approaching us because of her.
Yeah.
That's it
It's because Tsuneko has no sense. I wonder if she's holding me back.
Kiriko's making me look bad.
If I was by myself, I'm sure someone would've approached me already.
What about you, Tsuneko!? You're jumping in awful quick!
You're disgraceful, Kiriko! He's talking to me!
I would like to leave something to mark my youth!
It's not that I necessarily want to be a model!
There it is!
Hey girls.
I shouldn't approach little kids.
.....
DASH
だ"
だ"
だ
You don't need to fight over it...
.....
Would you be willing to take a survey?


Yeah
We should go home
It's five o'clock.
17:00
Maybe you're right.
Hey... Don't most modeling agencies have two days a week off? Aren't most of them closed on Saturdays?
That's right. My mom says not to go with someone who approaches to you
So we should be careful
Yeah, I heard that too
My mother told me that some people in Shibuya and Harajuku try to trick you by offering you modeling jobs
What?
I just remembered something.
We're good kids.
That's right.

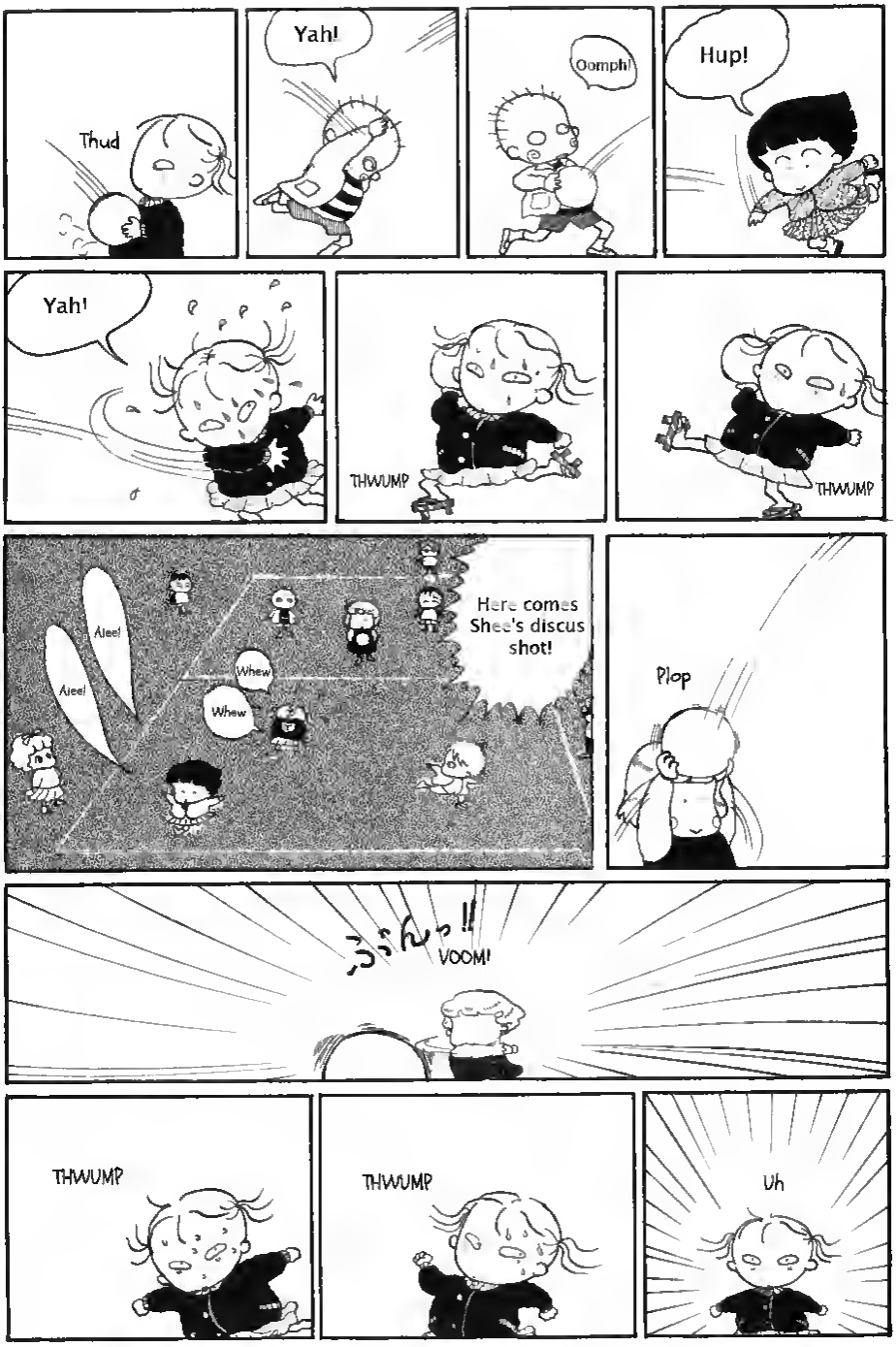

Cynical Hysterie
Hour 17
Looky


Did I?
Tsuneko, did you gain weight?

Swell
Swell

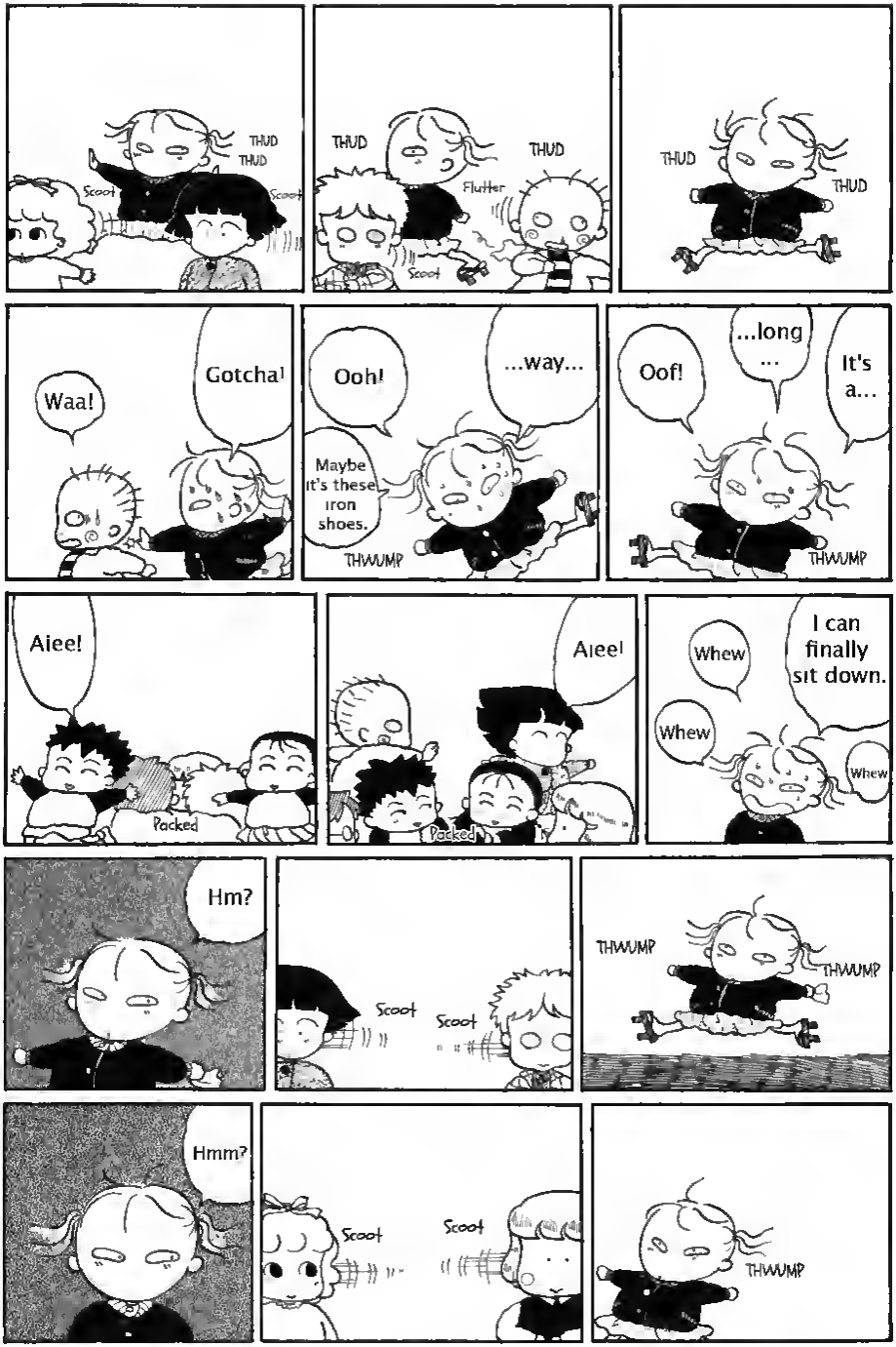
What's up?
Rustle
What's up?
Rustle
I'll go to the nurse's office and measure my weight then.
Thud
Thud
You do.
Hmm.
I don't think I look that different...
ひえええええ
AIEEE
I'm fat.
I'm fat.
I'm fat.
Oo-oh.
Hop
Hey!
Grr!
Yeah, the fat Comaneci.
And I was called the Comaneci of Kizakura Elementary.
Shocked!!

Uh-huh.
Uh-huh.
Yup.
She's getting slow too.
Pfft!
What?
What?
I wonder if I ate too much rice cake during New Year's...
.....
Okay.
We'll all help you lose weight.
Why don't you let us help you.
Tsuneko.
Let's play some work-out dodge ball.
These are heavy.
Yeah!
I need to wear iron shoes?
Then ...
Ta-
da
You just need to exercise more.
You need to burn more calories than you take in.

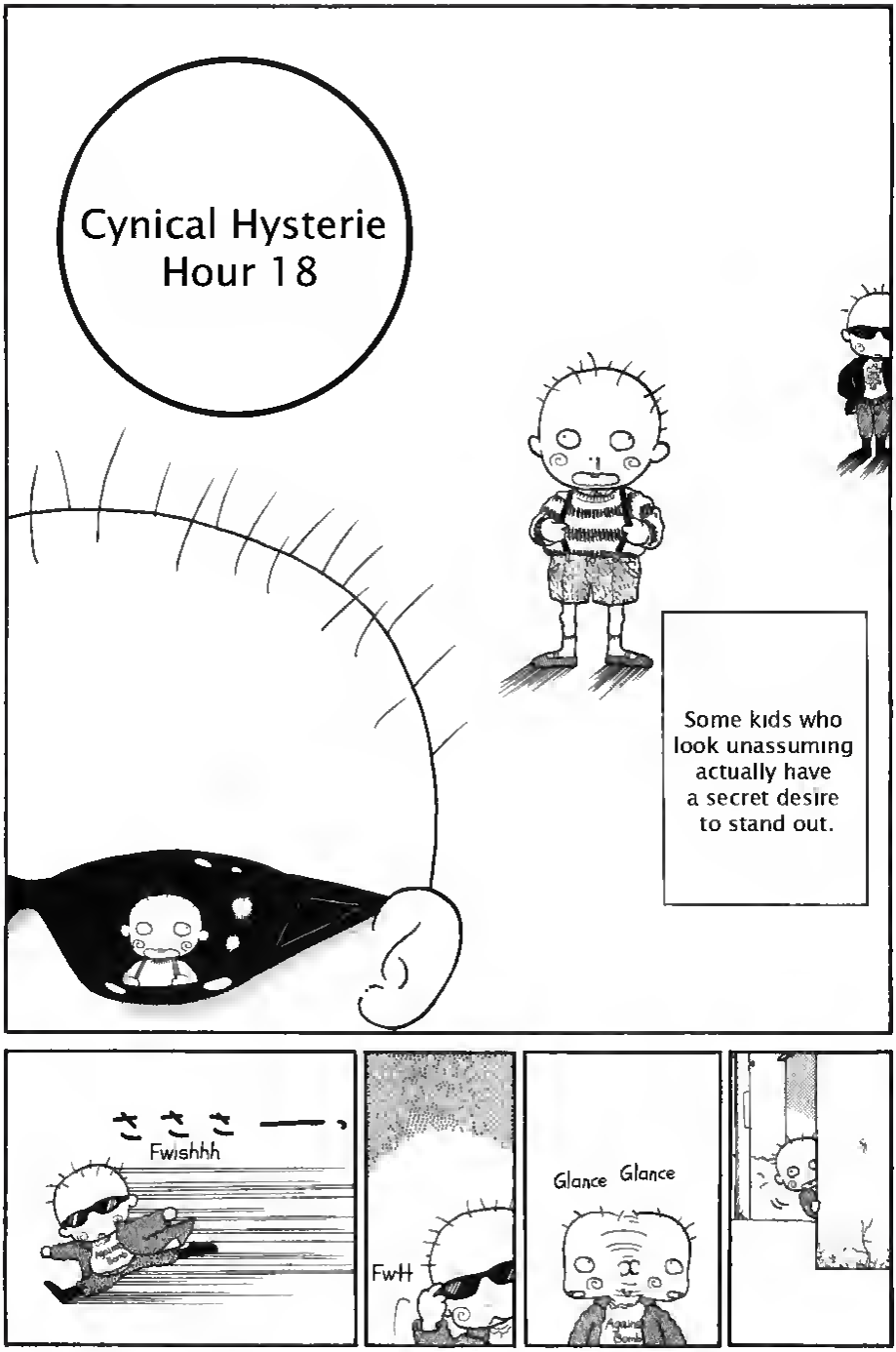

Thud
Yah!
Oomph!
Hup!
Yah!
THWUMP
THWUMP
Here comes Shee's discus shot!
Aiee!
Aiee!
Whew
Whew
Plop
VOOM!
THWUMP
THWUMP
Uh

THUD
Ah!
Oompf!
Oompf!
Weeeee
Run for it!!
THWUMP
THWUMP
Glance
Glance
Bonk
Bonk
Whew
Whew Whew
That was close.
Hah
Wobble
Wobble
Hah!
Mmm-mm.
Whew
Whew
Whew
Wobble
Thwump!
Whew
Wobble
THWUMP
Ah!
Whew
...hit Tsuneko!
Nono...
She's hit!
Boing &

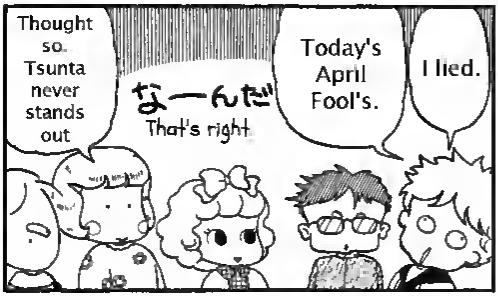
Congrats
She got her!
Whew
Whew
Clap
Clap
Clap
...work-out drop the handker-chief.
Okay, let's play...
Whew
Do you want to play something else?
I don't like playing dodge ball like this.
Whew
Yeah.
Aiee!
Wait!
THWUMP
THWUMP
Flutter
Skip
Skip
Whew
Whew
Oh man.
How pathetic. I'm slower than Nono.
Whew
Safe.
Plop
THWUMP
THWUMP

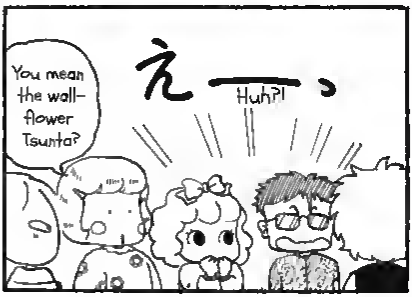

THUD
THUD
Scoot
Scoot
THUD
THUD
Flutter
Scoot
THUD
THUD
Waa!
Gotcha!
Ooh!
...way...
Maybe it's these iron shoes.
THWUMP
Oof!
...long...
It's a...
THWUMP
Aiee!
Packed
Aiee!
Packed
Whew
Whew
I can finally sit down.
Whew
Hm?
Scoot
Scoot
THWUMP
THWUMP
Hmm?
Scoot
Scoot
THWUMP

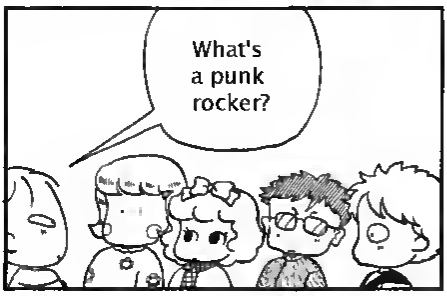
You make the circle bigger when I'm running.
That's it.
You found out...
Ah...
Scoot
THWUMP
R... Really?
Yeah.
You look like you're in a little better shape.
So you get more exercise
We're doing it for you, Tsuneko
No fair!
I had four bowls of rice.
And I had some chocolate too.
Even bigger
I was so hungry after all this running around.
As it turns out....
We shouldn't have done anything.
We've failed ...
What are you doing to me?!
THWUMP
THWUMP

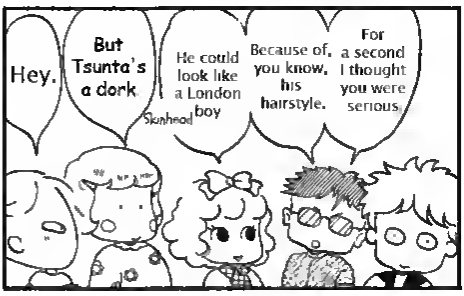

Cynical Hysterie
Hour 18
Some kids who look unassuming actually have a secret desire to stand out.
ささささ——,
Fwishhh
Fwtt
Glance Glance

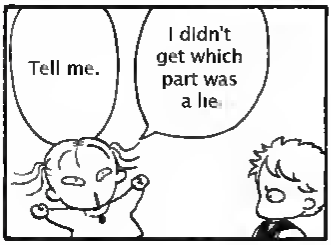
...a punk rocker.
Tsunta is really...


Thought so. Tsunta never stands out
なーんだ
That's right
Today's April Fool's.
I lied.


You mean the wall-flower Tsunta?
え——っ
Huh?!


What's a punk rocker?


Hey.
But Tsunta's a dork
He could look like a London boy
Skinhead
Because of, you know, his hairstyle.
For a second I thought you were serious.


Tell me.
I didn't get which part was a lie.

I asked you a question.
Mutter Mutter
I can't believe she doesn't know punk

There's always someone like this ...
Oh, boy...

It just really makes you not want to explain it.
Uh-huh.
Fwishhh

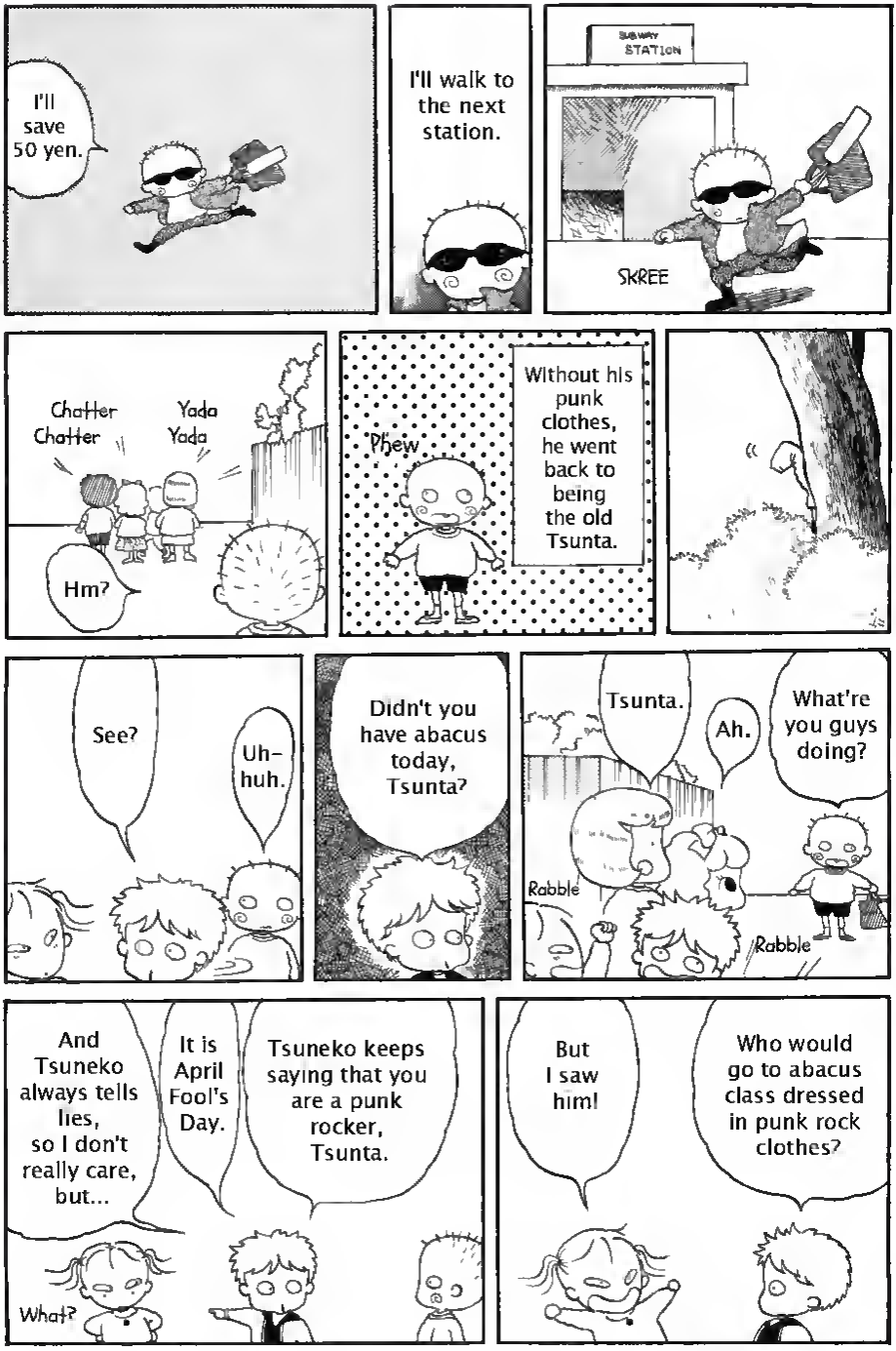
...so pathetic.
Whizz—
zz
It's just a little lie. Having to explain it is just so...

He was wearing sunglasses and a ripped T-shirt.
He went that way.
Huh?
Where?
Where?
Wasn't that Tsunta just now?
?
GWAHAHAHAHA
がはははは
Yuck!
Ha.
Bwaha!
That Tsunta was a punk rocker.
What I just said a second ago.
When was I copying you?
What?!
You're taking my lie and spinning a web out of it.
Ignorance is a scary thing.
...has abacus class.
But today Tsunta...
But I saw him.
No... That's not...
Oh whatever
It's Tsuneko after all
...wearing sunglasses and a ripped T-shirt.
...punk rocker means ...
Oh, so...
How could I forget my abacus?
I really messed up, didn't I?

Because he wanted to stand out.
Why did he dress in punk rock clothes?
ガタン ゴトン
CLICKETY CLACK
Once a week, Tsunta dressed up in punk rock clothes, took the train to the next town, and went to abacus class.
But they wouldn't let him in
He did want to go to London Nite at Tsubaki House.
Why did he go to abacus class?
Stare
Because he was em-barrassed
I couldn't do this in my neigh borhood.
Why did he go to the next town?
Tsunta's here!
It's Tsunta!
Hey!
I'm sorry for being late
Teacher
ガラッ
SLAM
"Abacus School Camden Palace"
They won't give me money for Tsubaki!
And if he was going to abacus class, his parents would pay for it.
Pose
Yay!
Yay!
Woo hoo!
Spin
Spin
FWUP

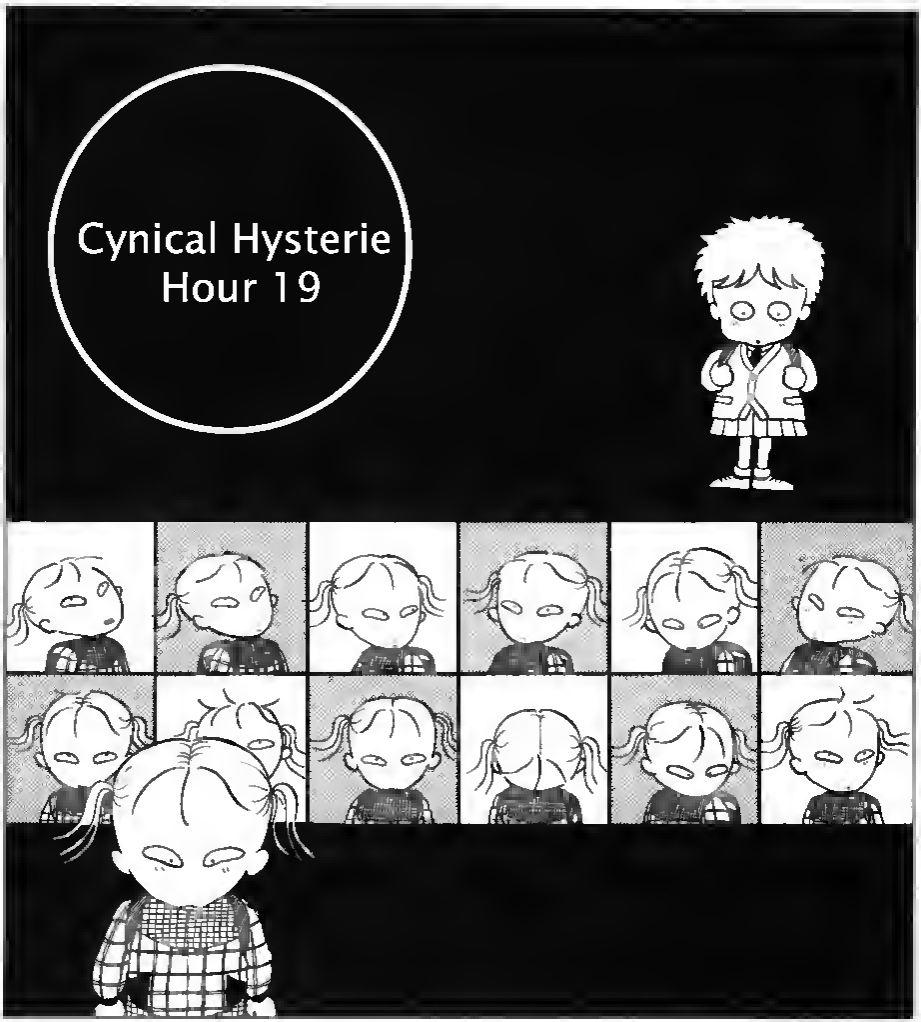
35 yen...
plus 98 yen
Click
Click Click
Click
Get ready...
Yes, teacher.
Tsunta, please take your seat now.
じ.... ん..
TOUCHED
Good job.
1252 yen
In-correct
Michiyo?
987 yen.
...plus 165 yen is
Tsunta?
Yes, good job.
2,355 yen.
Again ...
Wrong ...
plus 28 yen...
...plus 650 yen is
Log
Log
Click
Click
180 yen...
plus 88 yen
I'll try a double abacus.
Cool, Tsunta.
Wow
CLACK
GRIP
...The abacus is all I've got.
Okay, start again
Whoosh

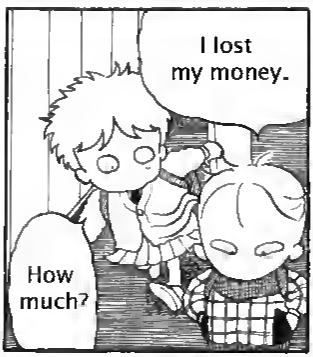
...
I bet he's gonna slam his abacus on the floor.
What's he going to do?
I didn't mean to flick it that hard.
Uh...
He's so extreme...
Wow!
Uh...
Tsunta just flung his abacus!
Woah!
Cool!
Okay.
O...
Hushh—
hh
He's so punk rock.
Whoa
He's so awesome!
Whoa
Take that!
Hiya!
YEAAAH!
WOOHOO!
WHAM
the superstar...
...of the abacus school.
I gotta stop this.
After all, I am...
it'll cost a little money, but what can i do?
That's the second abacus I broke...
...this month.
...Once again, i lived up to their expectations.
i gotta stop this!
Tsunta doesn't have time to eat bean paste pancakes with you!
You idiot.
Sorry dudes, i gotta bounce
Tsunta, do you want to get some bean paste pancakes on the way home?

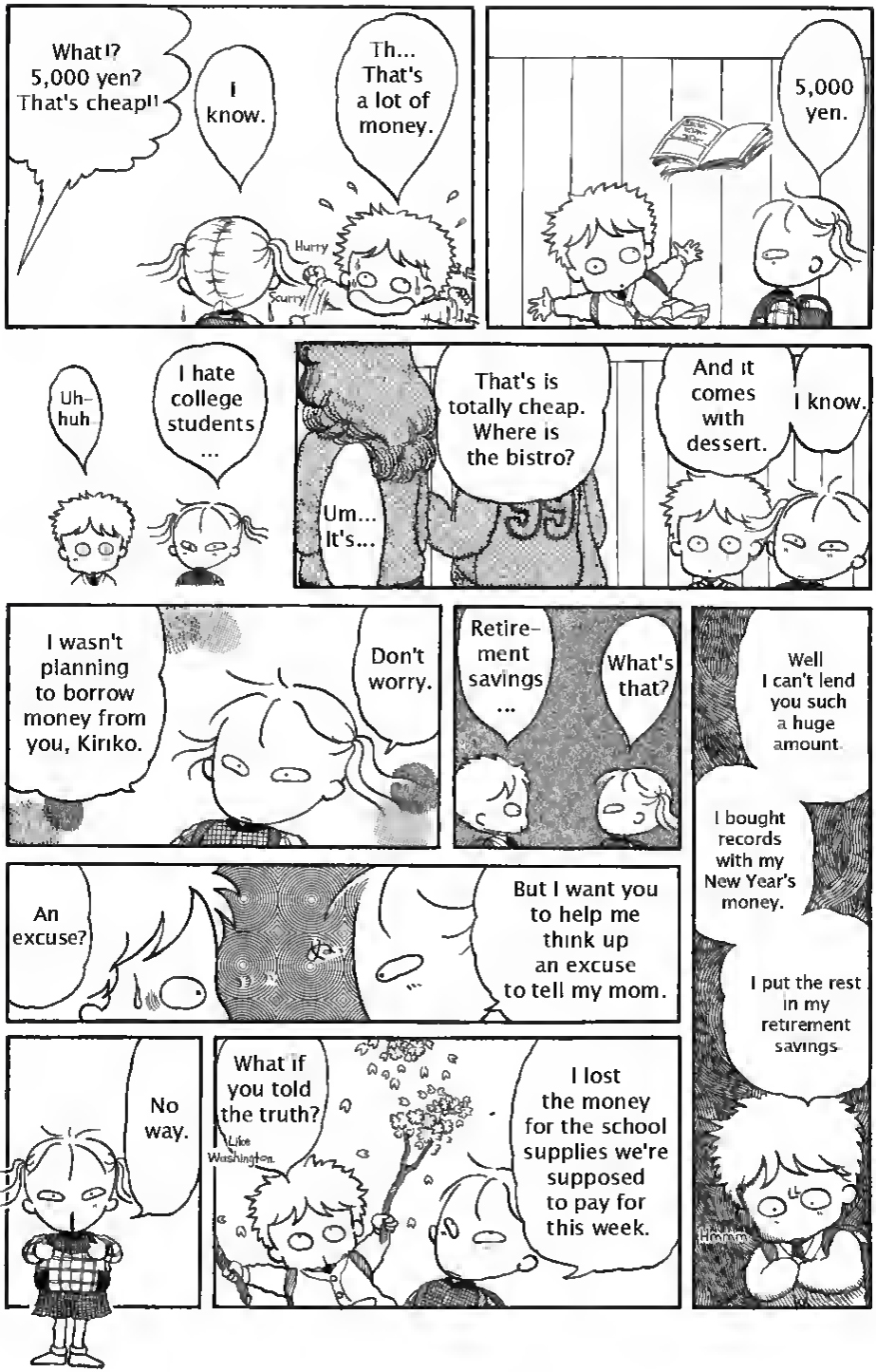

I'll save 50 yen.
I'll walk to the next station.
SUBWAY STATION
SKREE
Chatter Chatter
Yada Yada
Hm?
Phew
Without his punk clothes, he went back to being the old Tsunta.
See?
Uh-huh.
Didn't you have abacus today, Tsunta?
Tsunta.
Ah.
What're you guys doing?
Rabble
Rabble
And Tsuneko always tells lies, so I don't really care, but...
It is April Fool's Day.
Tsuneko keeps saying that you are a punk rocker, Tsunta.
What?
But I saw him!
Who would go to abacus class dressed in punk rock clothes?

Everyone will think Tsuneko is a liar because of me.
If I don't tell the truth...
Wh... What should I do?
Would you knock it off already?
But it's annoying how you keep going on about it.
Thanks a lot for nothing.
And who knows what she'll do to me.
If Tsuneko is pulling an April Fool's Day prank, then I would be ruining it by telling the truth
No, wait.
Hm?
... Um.
Dumbfounded
I don't know!
...What should I do?
...do that
Tsuneko would...
Uh.
I'll go home...
...and practice the abacus.

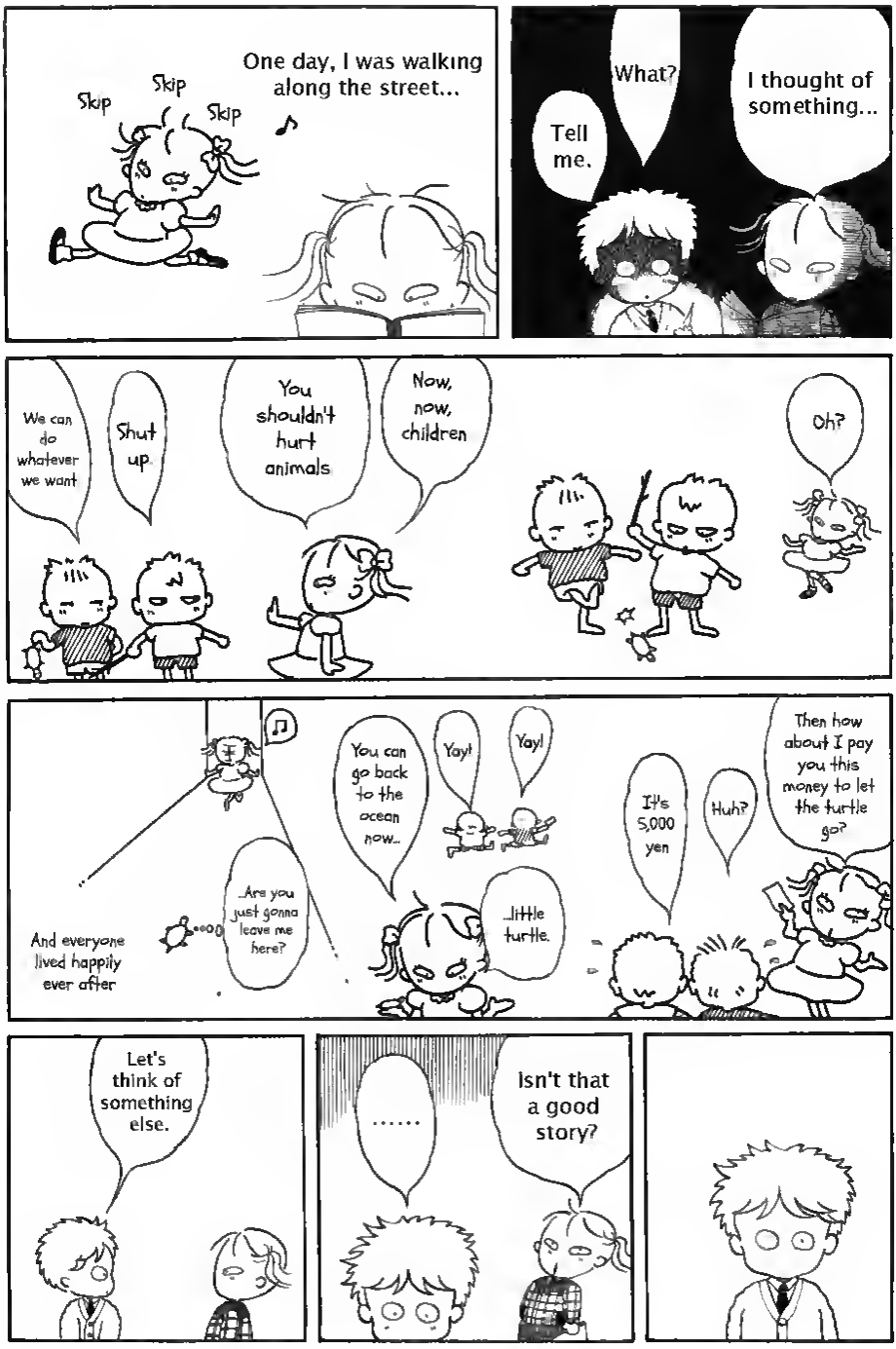
Cynical Hysterie Hour 19

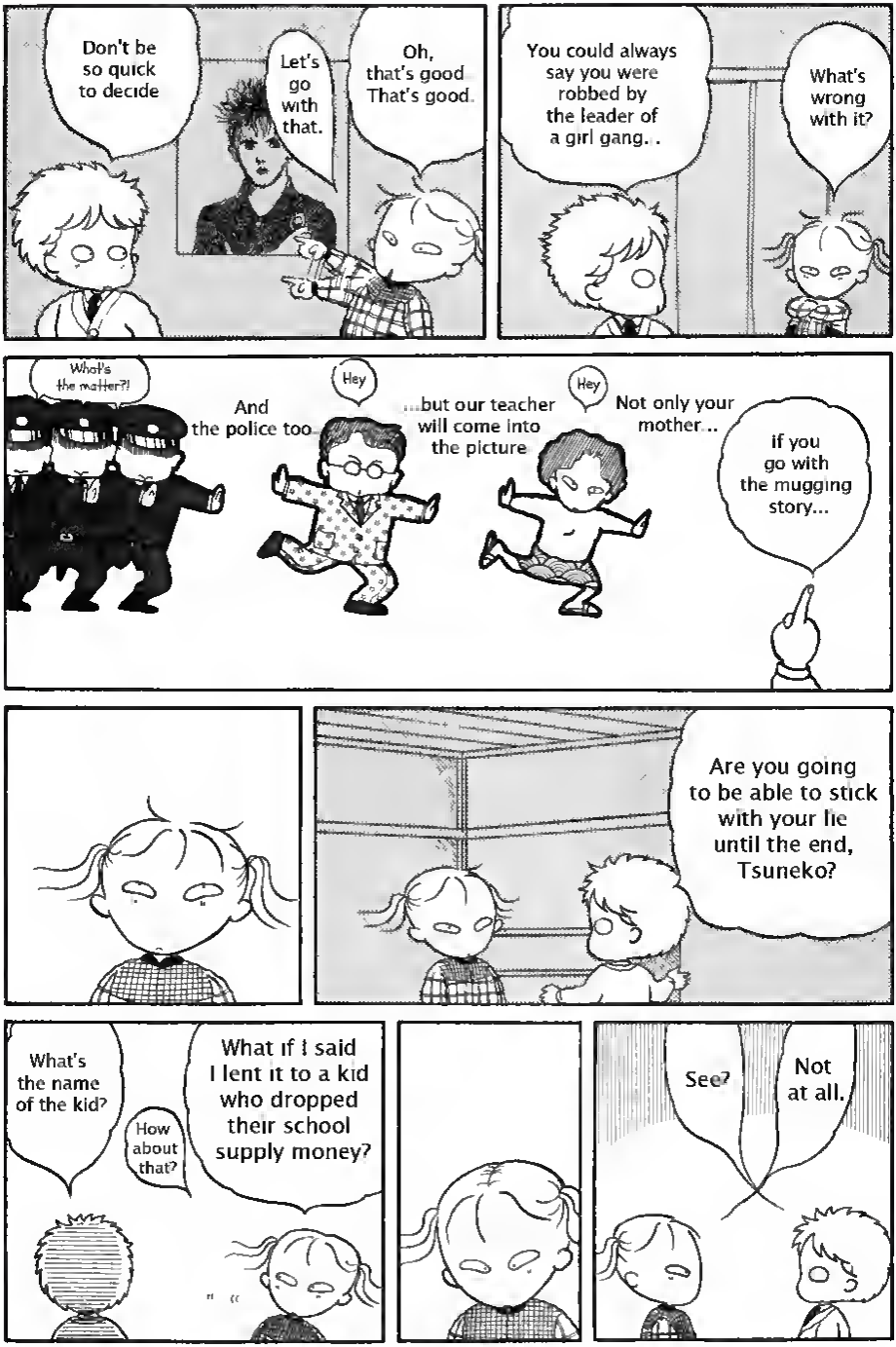


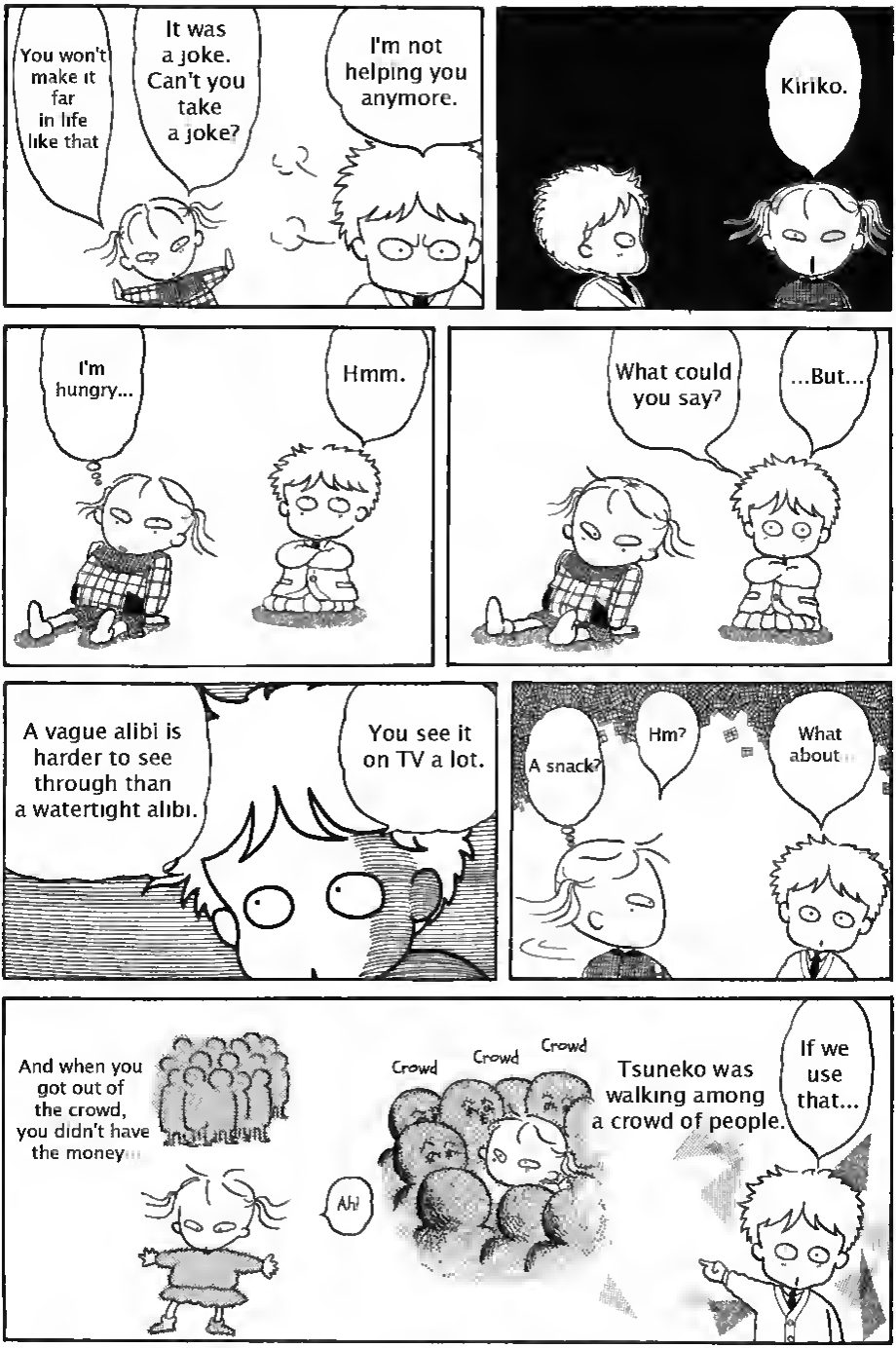



What!? 5,000 yen? That's cheap!!
I know.
Th... That's a lot of money.
Hurry
Scurry
5,000 yen.
Uh-huh
I hate college students ...
That's is totally cheap. Where is the bistro?
Um... It's...
And it comes with dessert.
I know.
I wasn't planning to borrow money from you, Kiriko.
Don't worry.
Retire-ment savings ...
What's that?
Well I can't lend you such a huge amount.
I bought records with my New Year's money.
I put the rest in my retirement savings.
Hmmm
An excuse?
But I want you to help me think up an excuse to tell my mom.
No way.
What if you told the truth?
Like Washington.
I lost the money for the school supplies we're supposed to pay for this week.

So I have to come up with an excuse that'll make her feel sorry for me.
That's rough.
That's fine I'll deduct it from your monthly allowance.
Nice mother who never gets angry.
You lost it?
If I told the truth ...
Okay
We can think about it there
You wanna come to my house, Tsuneko?
What we need is...
Inevitability.
An accident
Persuasion.
Tunk
Hup
Hold on a sec.
It's like we're planning the perfect crime or something.
Thump
Thump
This'll help us think.


Skip
Skip
Skip
One day, I was walking along the street...
Tell me.
What?
I thought of something...
We can do whatever we want
Shut up
You shouldn't hurt animals
Now, now, children
Oh?
And everyone lived happily ever after
...Are you just gonna leave me here?
You can go back to the ocean now...
Yay!
Yay!
...little turtle.
It's 5,000 yen
Huh?
Then how about I pay you this money to let the turtle go?
Let's think of something else.
.....
Isn't that a good story?

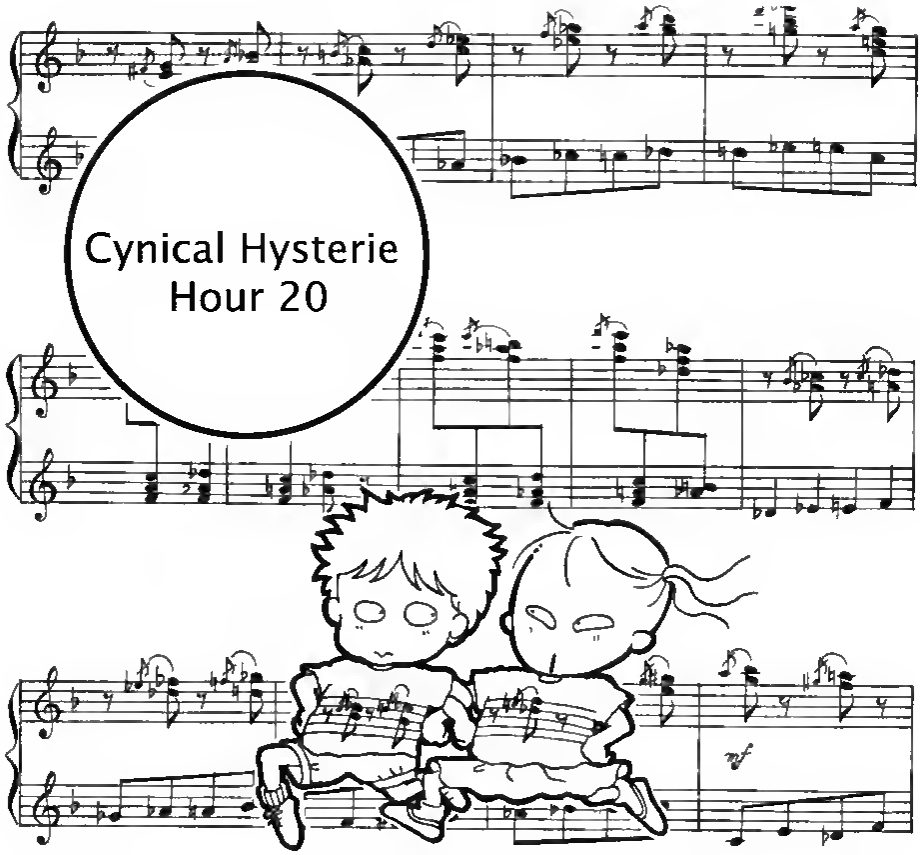

Don't be so quick to decide
Let's go with that.
Oh, that's good That's good.
You could always say you were robbed by the leader of a girl gang..
What's wrong with it?
What's the matter?!
And the police too
Hey
...but our teacher will come into the picture
Hey
Not only your mother...
if you go with the mugging story...
Are you going to be able to stick with your lie until the end, Tsuneko?
What's the name of the kid?
How about that?
What if I said I lent it to a kid who dropped their school supply money?
See?
Not at all.

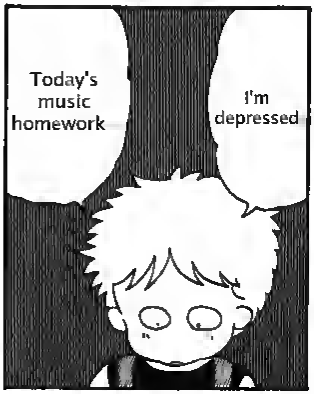

You won't make it far in life like that
It was a joke. Can't you take a joke?
I'm not helping you anymore.
Kiriko.
I'm hungry...
Hmm.
What could you say?
...But...
A vague alibi is harder to see through than a watertight alibi.
You see it on TV a lot.
A snack?
Hm?
What about...
And when you got out of the crowd, you didn't have the money...
Crowd
Crowd
Crowd
Ah!
Tsuneko was walking among a crowd of people.
If we use that...

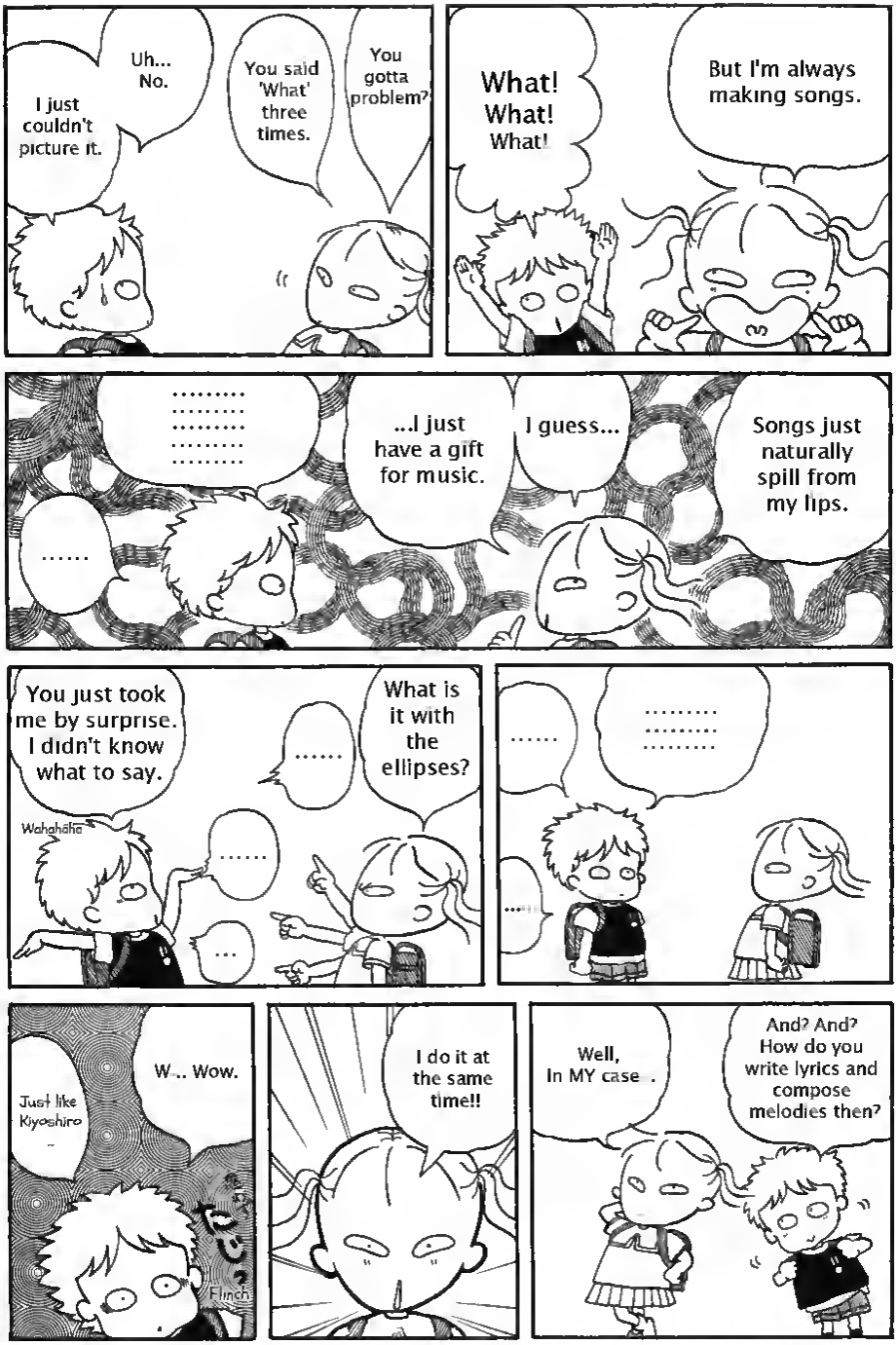
But if you just say ' I don't know what happened, ' they can't really go after anyone.
If you were pickpocketed, then it was a crime.
Maybe you dropped it, or maybe you were pickpocketed.
...I don't really know.
Well?
Yeah.
I think so too.
Let's go with that.
That's a great idea.
Bravo! Bravo!
Hop
Hop
Ah, I see.
Ah!!
Where are there crowds in our neighborhood?
Wait
.....
So I was walking in a crowd.
I have to memorize it
Plop
That's no good
Bump
Uh-huh!
..That's a problem..

Hm?
It was your fault!
Hey!
Owie!
You knocked it over.
What's this?
School supply money
Dumb
founded
I'm hungry. I'm going home.

Cynical Hysterie Hour 20






Uh... No.
I just couldn't picture it.
You said 'What' three times.
You gotta problem?
What! What! What!
But I'm always making songs.
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
...I just have a gift for music.
I guess...
Songs just naturally spill from my lips.
You just took me by surprise. I didn't know what to say.
Wahahaha
.....
.....
...
What is it with the ellipses?
.....
.....
.....
.....
...
W... Wow.
Just like Kiyoshiro
Flinch
I do it at the same time!!
Well, In MY case .
And? And? How do you write lyrics and compose melodies then?

Uh, why?
Then I run around my house, right?
...and I like what we're having for dinner.
Ooh, curry
For example, let's say I go home...
Tsuneko's lyrics and
composition class
...a song just comes out of my mouth.
And then...
Right.
You want to eat more of your favorite food.
Oh... Right.
Because then I'll get more hungry, of course.
TA
is curry and rice
TA
Todaaaay
Ta
Ta
Today
Today
Ta
Ta
Hey.
HALT

Currrrryyyy and rilice
Today, today, todaaaay is
Ta
Ta
Ta
Currrrryyyy and rilice
.....
.....
Maybe that one.
Is maybe ...
Curryy-yyyy and rice
better?
It's so poetic.
What kind of song should I make?
If Tsuneko can do it, I can do it too.
Bye-bye.
See ya.
I know. I surprise myself sometimes.
I'm moved.

I'm home.
A girl genius is discovered!
Hee hee
If it's really good, I could send a demo tape to a record company.
Some folk music would be good.
I wonder what we're having today?
If we're having pork cutlets for dinner, my debut won't be far away!
THUD THUD THUD
That smell!
!
Hm? Hm?
Hm?
You can't be picky. If you don't eat your onion, you won't be smart.
It's onion...
You're home.
Oh, Kiriko.

Do not point knives at people

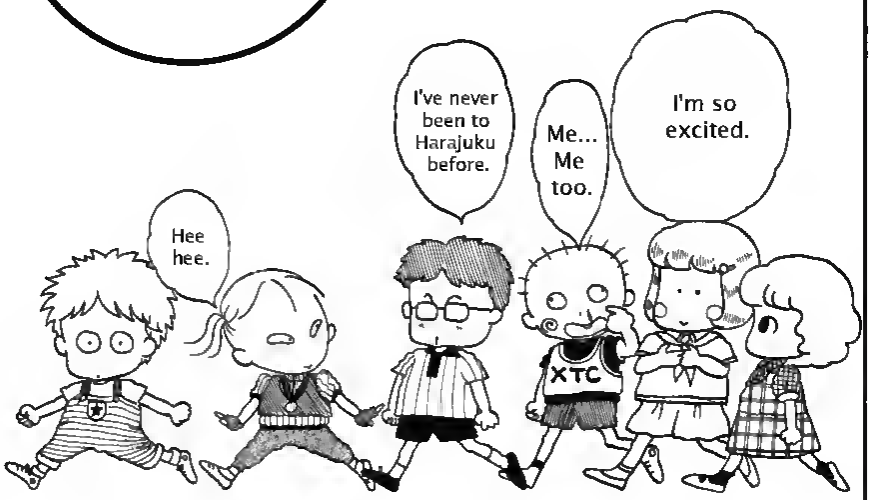
Onion
on-on-on-on
Oni
Oni
I have to write a song.
Ah...
Aiiiieeeeeeeee!
ぎゃあああぁ――っ
If Tsuneko can do it, I can do it too!
Oooh.
Whew
I can't take it.
Whew
That smell.
Whew
It's sweet roasted chestnuts.
It's...
I just have to pretend it's not onion.
.....
Fwip

Sweet roasted chestnuts
Sweet roasted chestnuts.
Oh, sounds good.
Hoppity
Hop
Hoppity
Hoppity hop
The... The smell of onions...
ぎくっ
Gulp
W.A
Aaahhh!
ATTACK!
Oomph

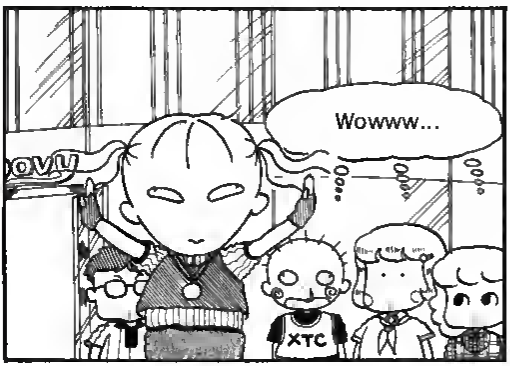
Ha
Ha
Ta
Ta
Hamburger
Ta
Ta
Happy
Ta
So
Ta
...It's no use... I can't write a song.
I made up another song.
Fwaha-haha!

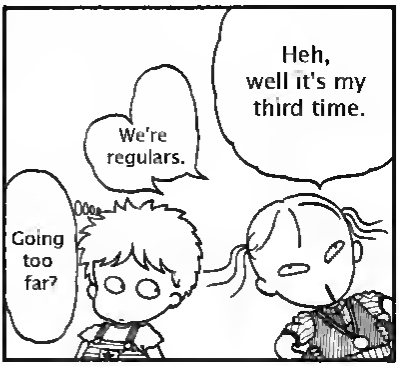
Cynical Hysterie Hour 21

IN HARAJUKU

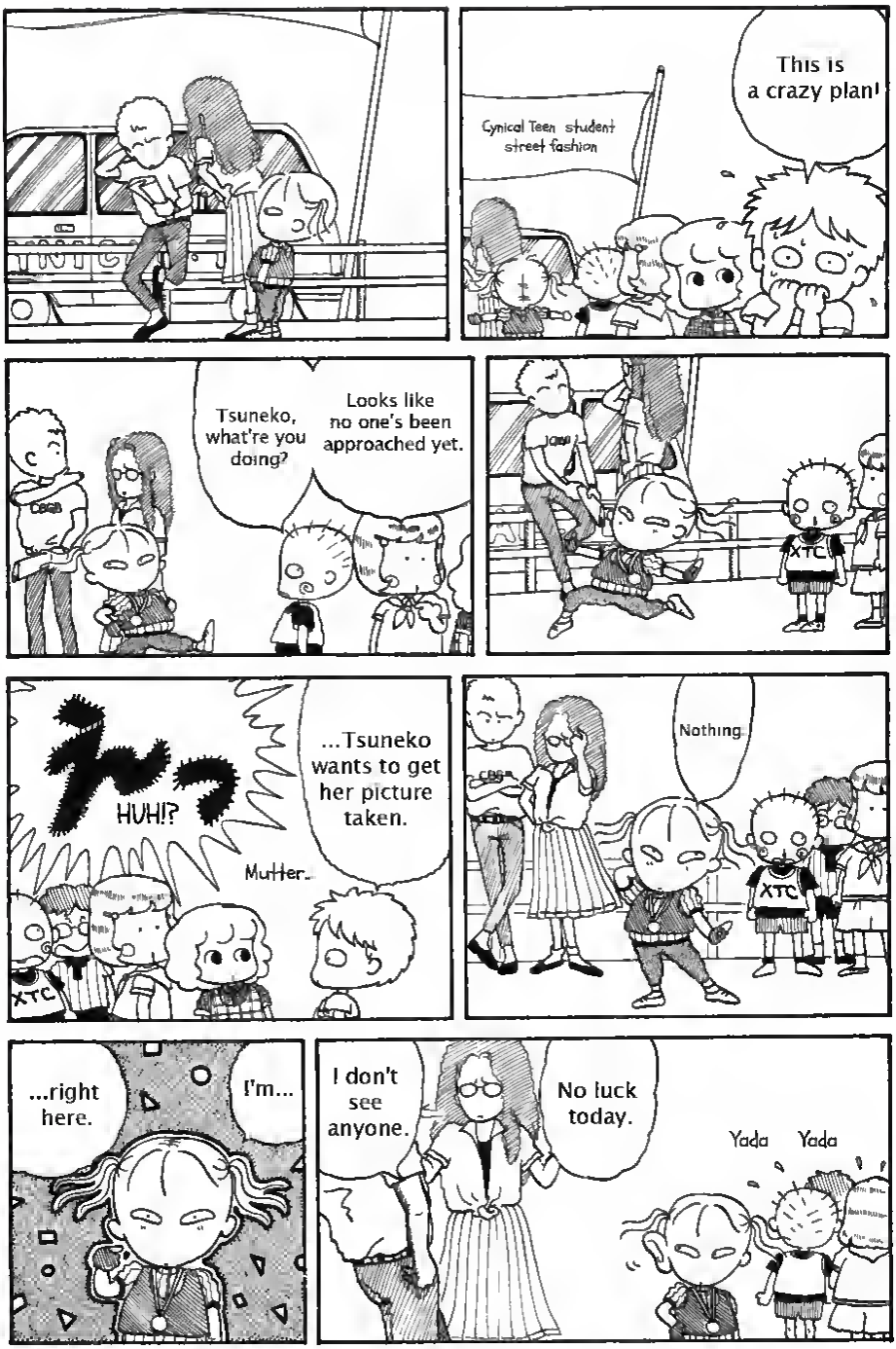


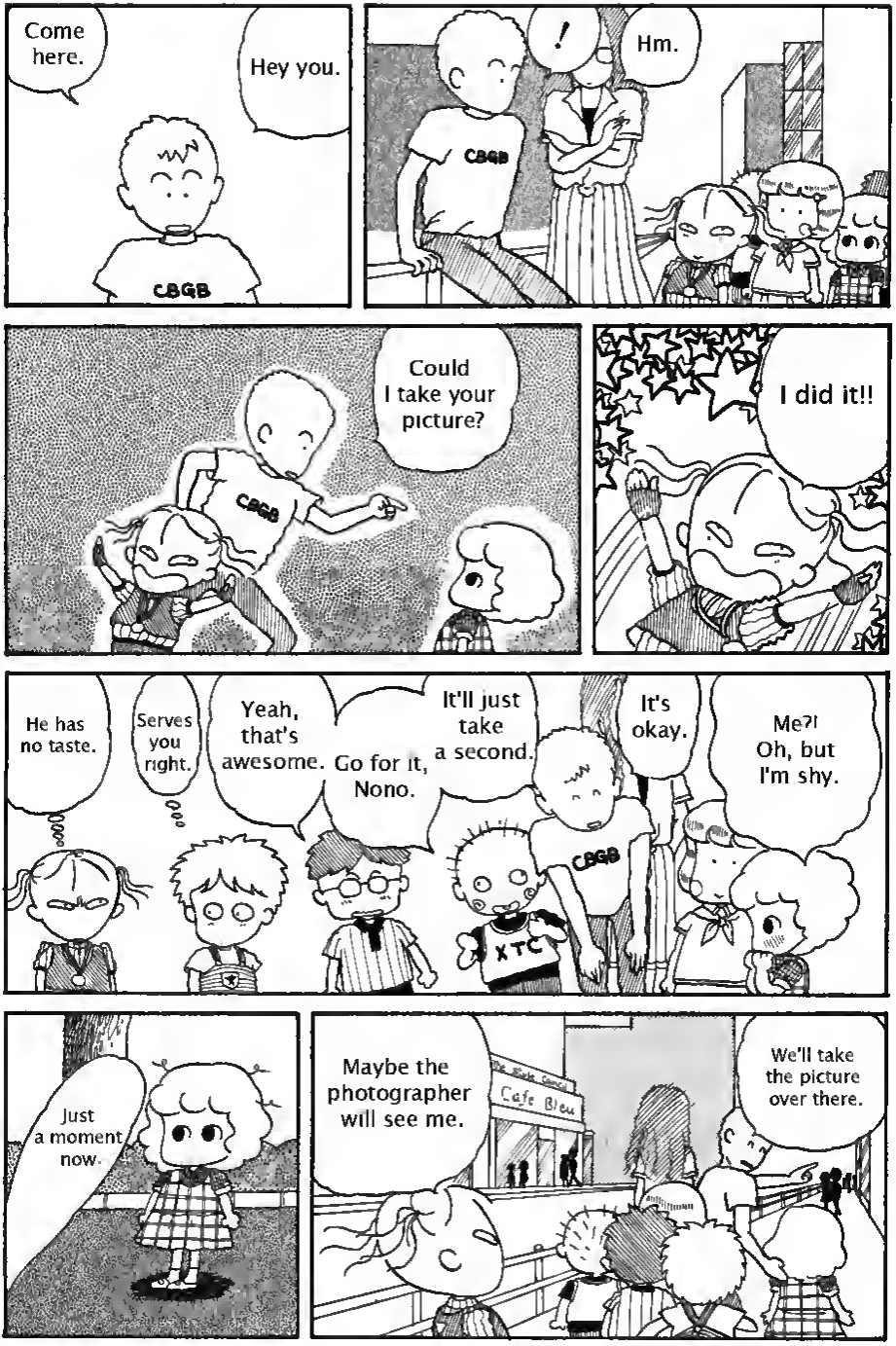
Imagine that Tsuneko's socks are neon green to make the scene feel more like Harajuku.

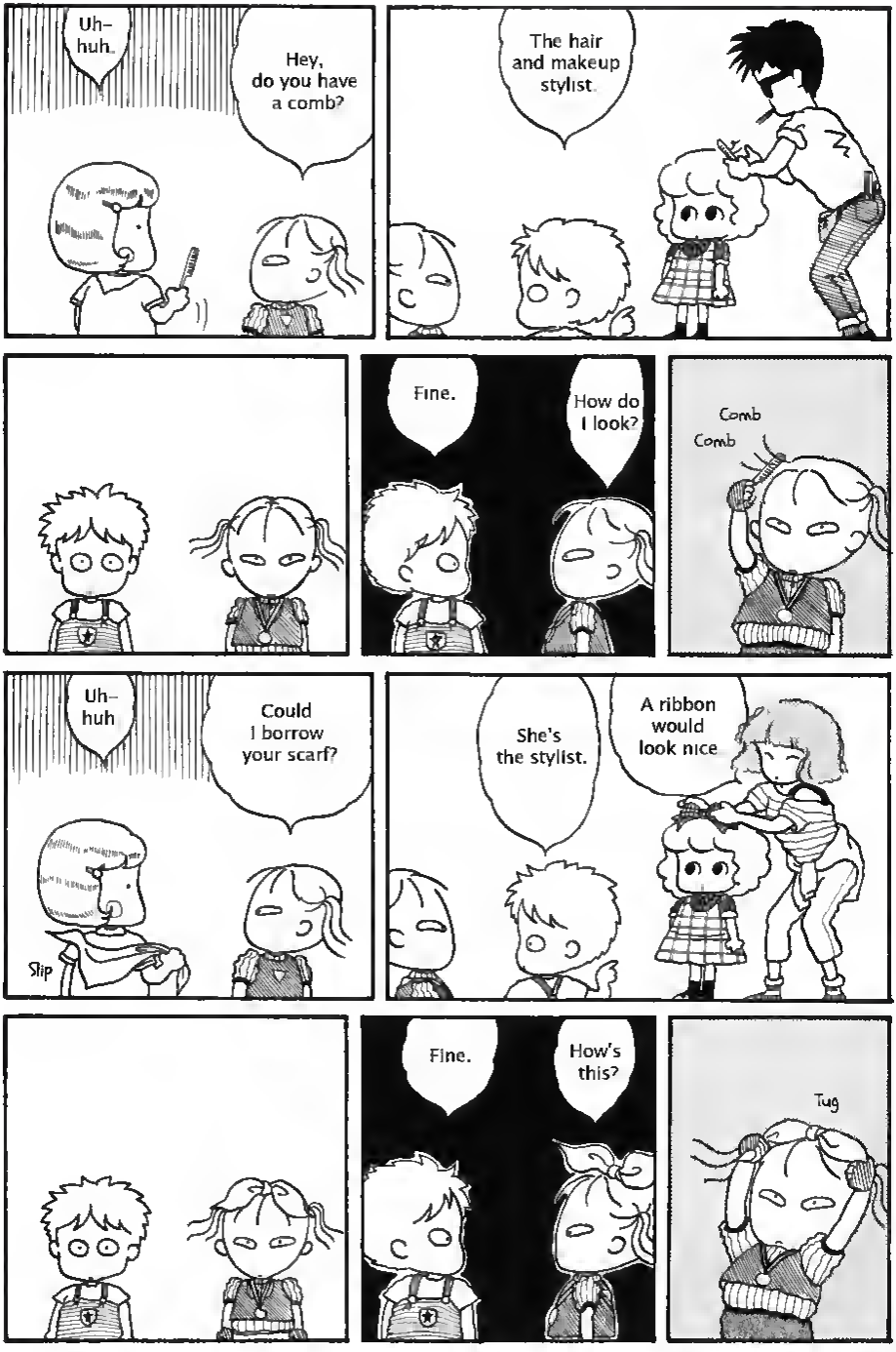


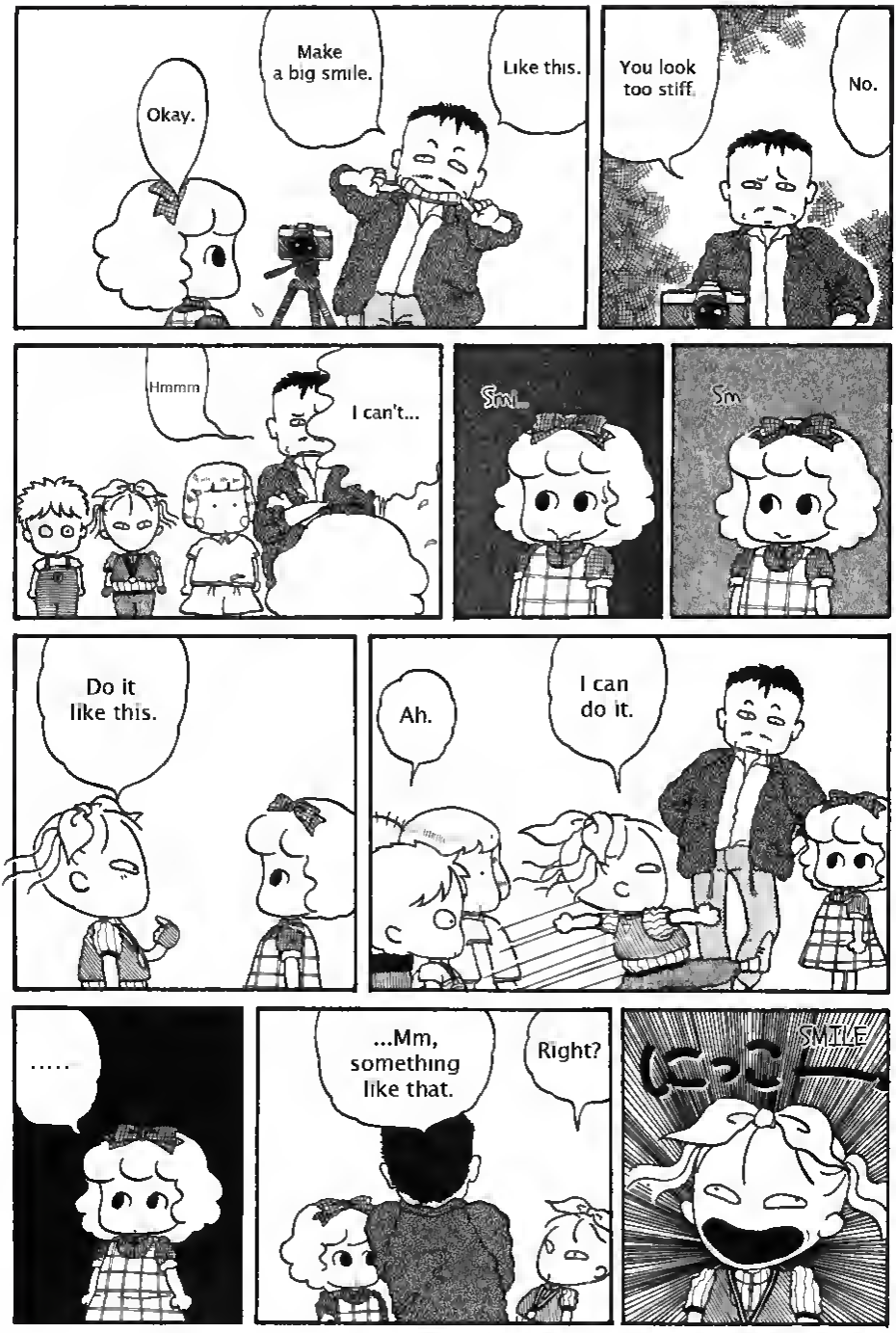


They take pictures of trendy elementary school students walking around
It was in "Cynical Teen."
Oh, I know that
"Nation-wide "Cynical Teen"" Trendy elementary student street fashions"
What's that?
Huh?
Hey, so do you want to go closer?
Yeah
And publish the pictures in "Cynical Teen."
It's just for a little bit.
Come on
I want to see the Takenoko-zoku.
I want to eat a crepe.
Kiddy Land.
What? I want to walk down Takeshita-dori.
I'll take you around in just a minute.
.....
It was her idea to go to Harajuku in the first place.
Tsuneko was planning to have her picture taken this whole time.
And the fact that she loves "Cynical Teen"...
Her personality
Her outfit today.
!

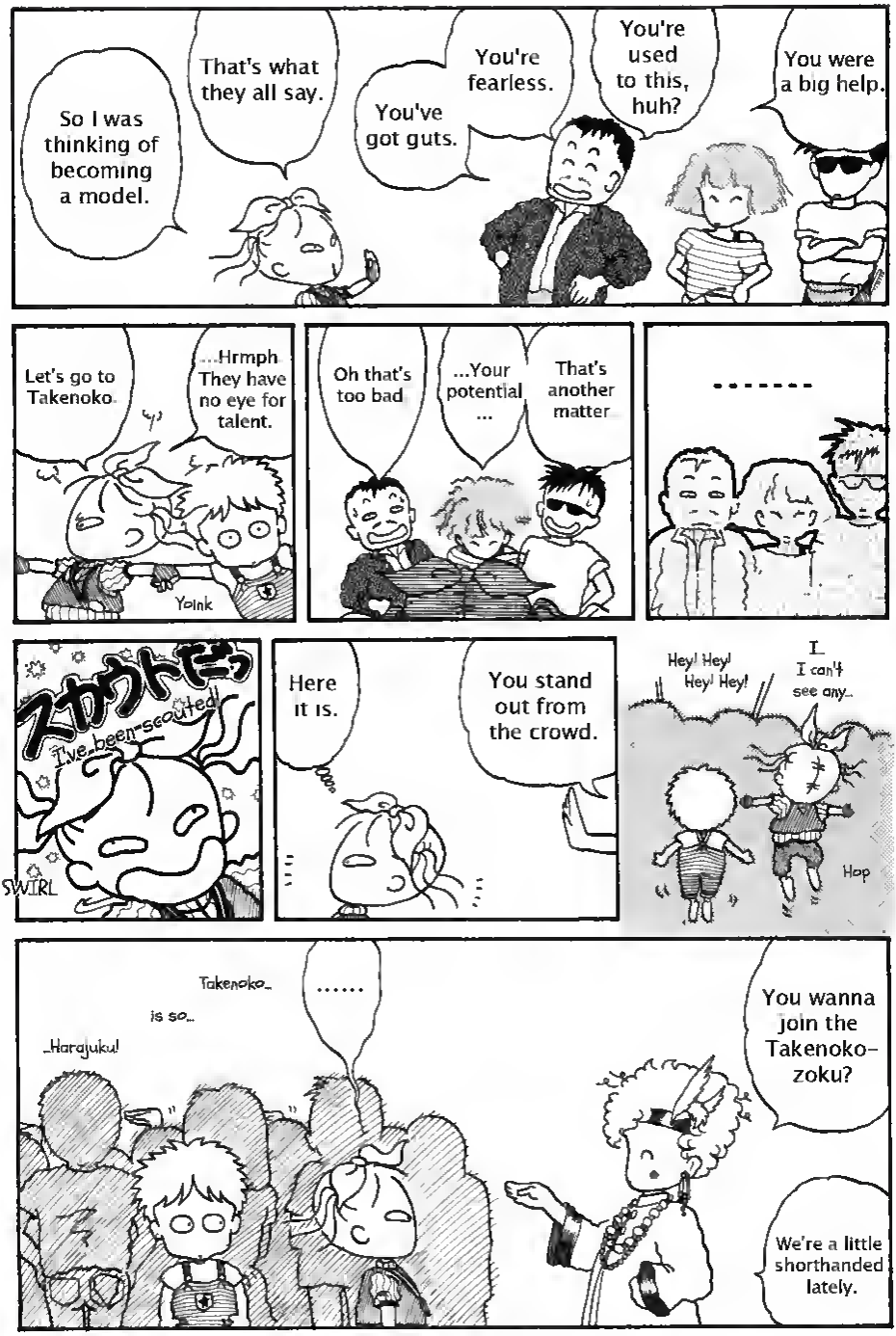

This is a crazy plan!
Cynical Teen student street fashion
Tsuneko, what're you doing?
Looks like no one's been approached yet.
HUH!?
Mutter.
...Tsuneko wants to get her picture taken.
Nothing.
...right here.
I'm...
I don't see anyone.
No luck today.
Yada Yada


Come here.
Hey you.
CBGB
!
Hm.
CBGB
Could I take your picture?
CBGB
I did it!!
He has no taste.
Serves you right.
Yeah, that's awesome.
Go for it, Nono.
It'll just take a second.
It's okay.
Me?! Oh, but I'm shy.
CBGB
XTC
Just a moment now.
Maybe the photographer will see me.
Cafe Bleu
We'll take the picture over there.

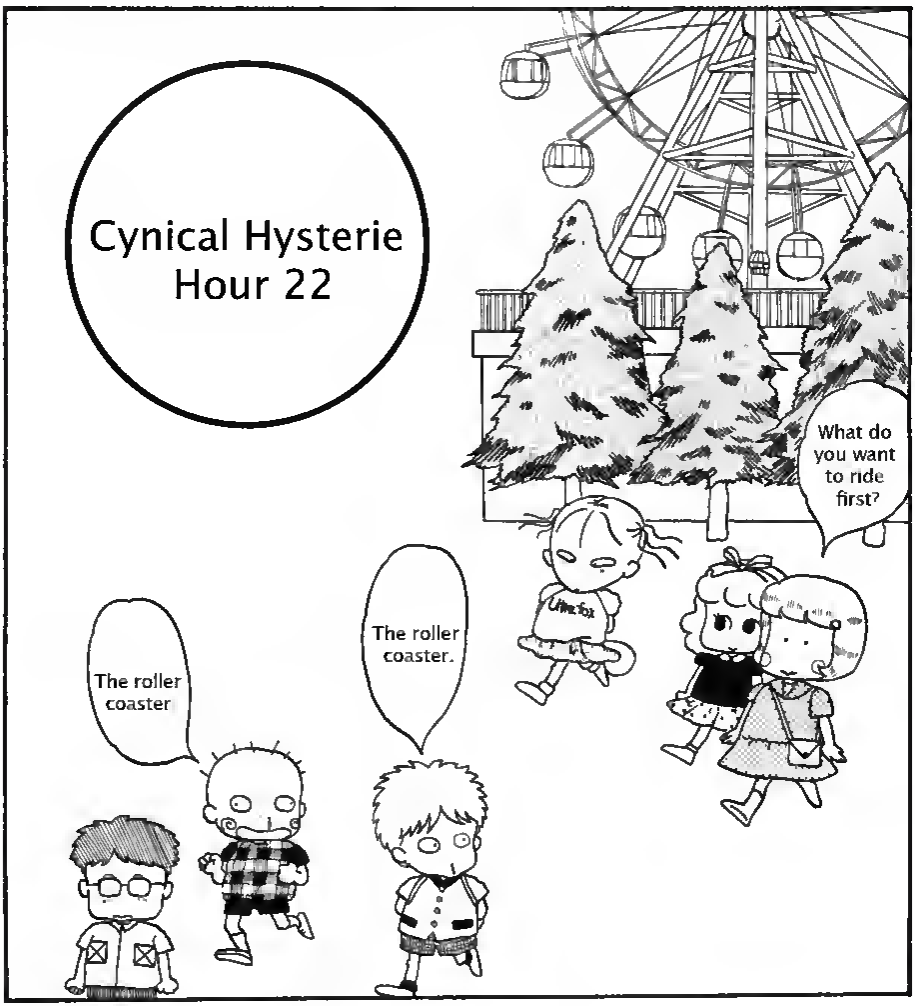

Uh-huh.
Hey, do you have a comb?
The hair and makeup stylist.
Fine.
How do I look?
Comb
Comb
Uh-huh
Could I borrow your scarf?
Slip
She's the stylist.
A ribbon would look nice.
Fine.
How's this?
Tug

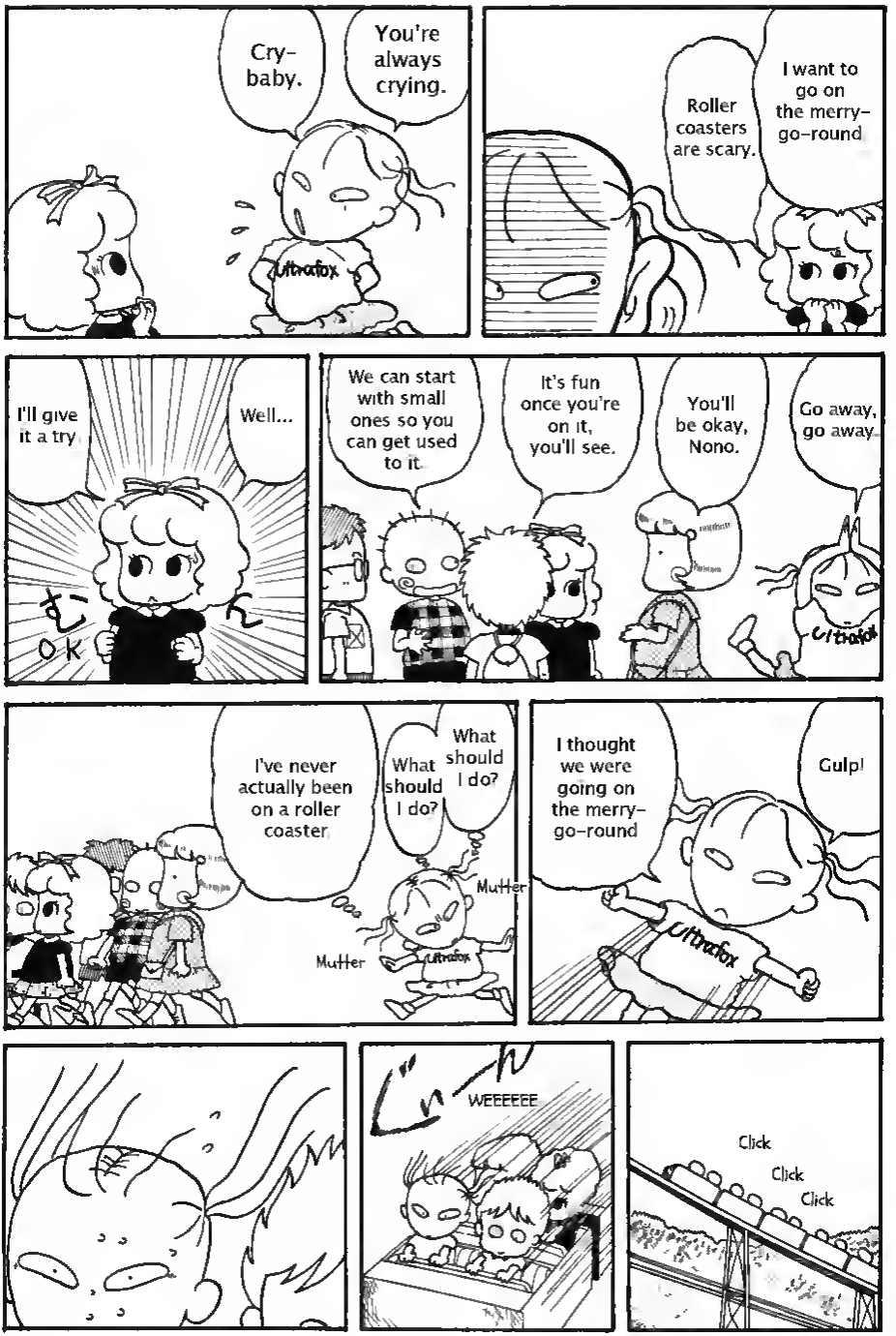

Okay.
Make a big smile.
Like this.
You look too stiff.
No.
Hmmm
I can't...
Smi
Sm
Do it like this.
Ah.
I can do it.
.....
...Mm, something like that.
Right?
SMILE

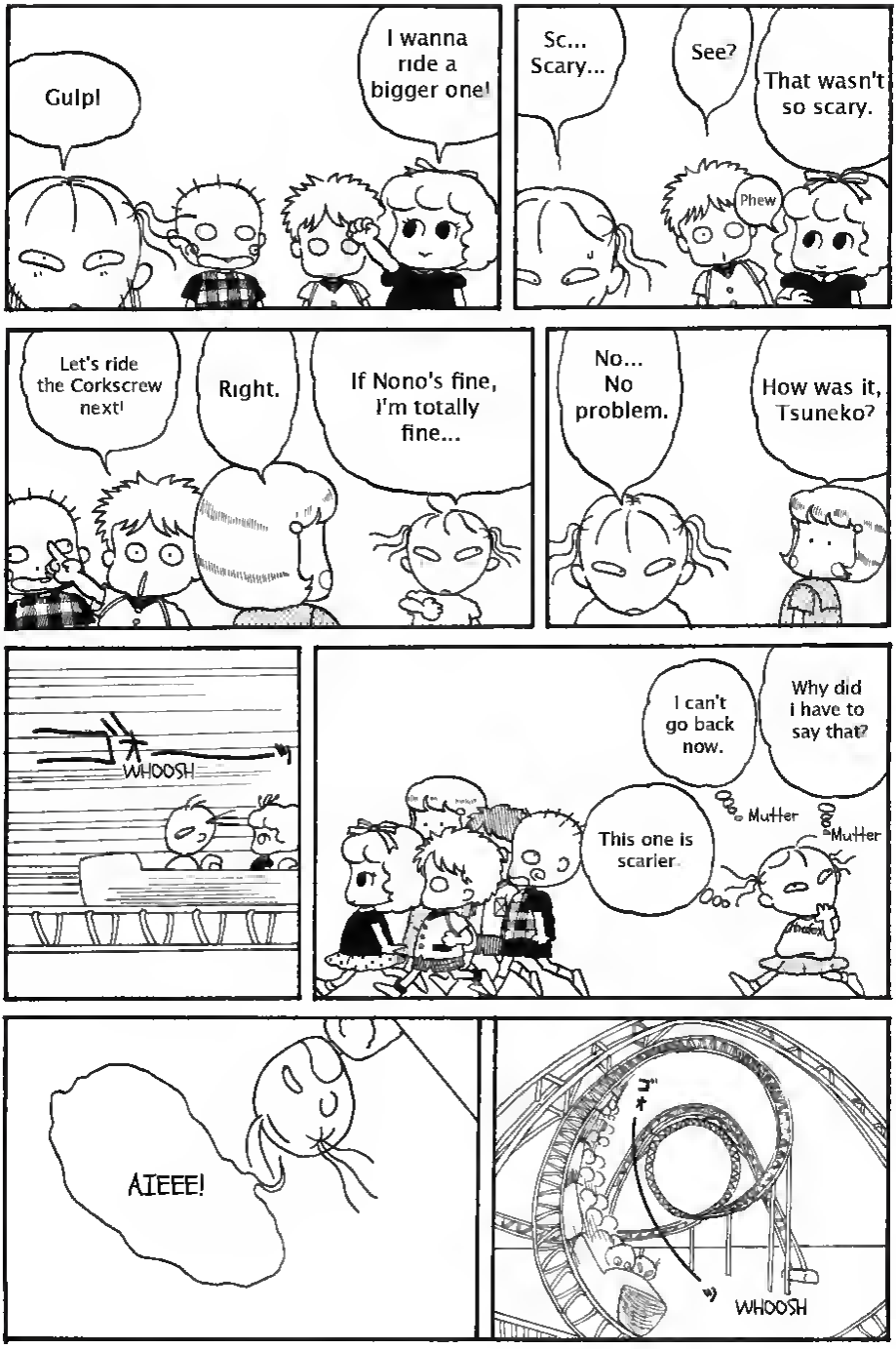
You look cute.
Good, good.
Click
Smile
ぎく
AWK
しゃく
WARD
Now just move around a little bit.
Why don't you try something like this?
Your movements are too stiff.
OK
Click
Do it like that.
Oh, that's good.


So I was thinking of becoming a model.
That's what they all say.
You've got guts.
You're fearless.
You're used to this, huh?
You were a big help.
Let's go to Takenoko.
...Hrmph They have no eye for talent.
Yoink
Oh that's too bad
...Your potential ...
That's another matter
.....
スカウトだっ
I've been scouted!
SWIRL
Here it is.
You stand out from the crowd.
Hey! Hey! Hey! Hey!
I can't see any...
Hop
Takenoko...
is so...
...Harajuku!
.....
You wanna join the Takenoko-zoku?
We're a little shorthanded lately.

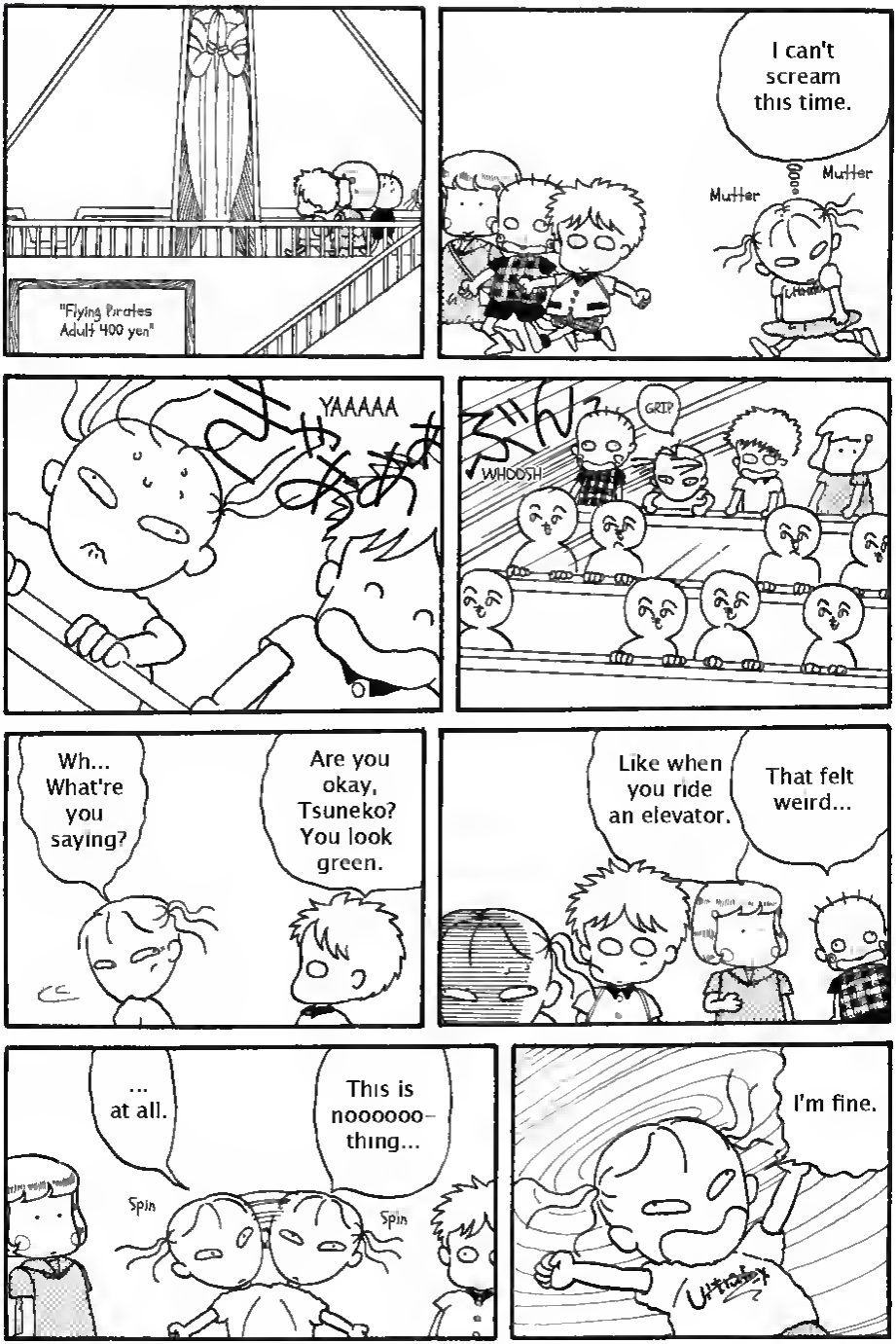
Cynical Hysterie Hour 22



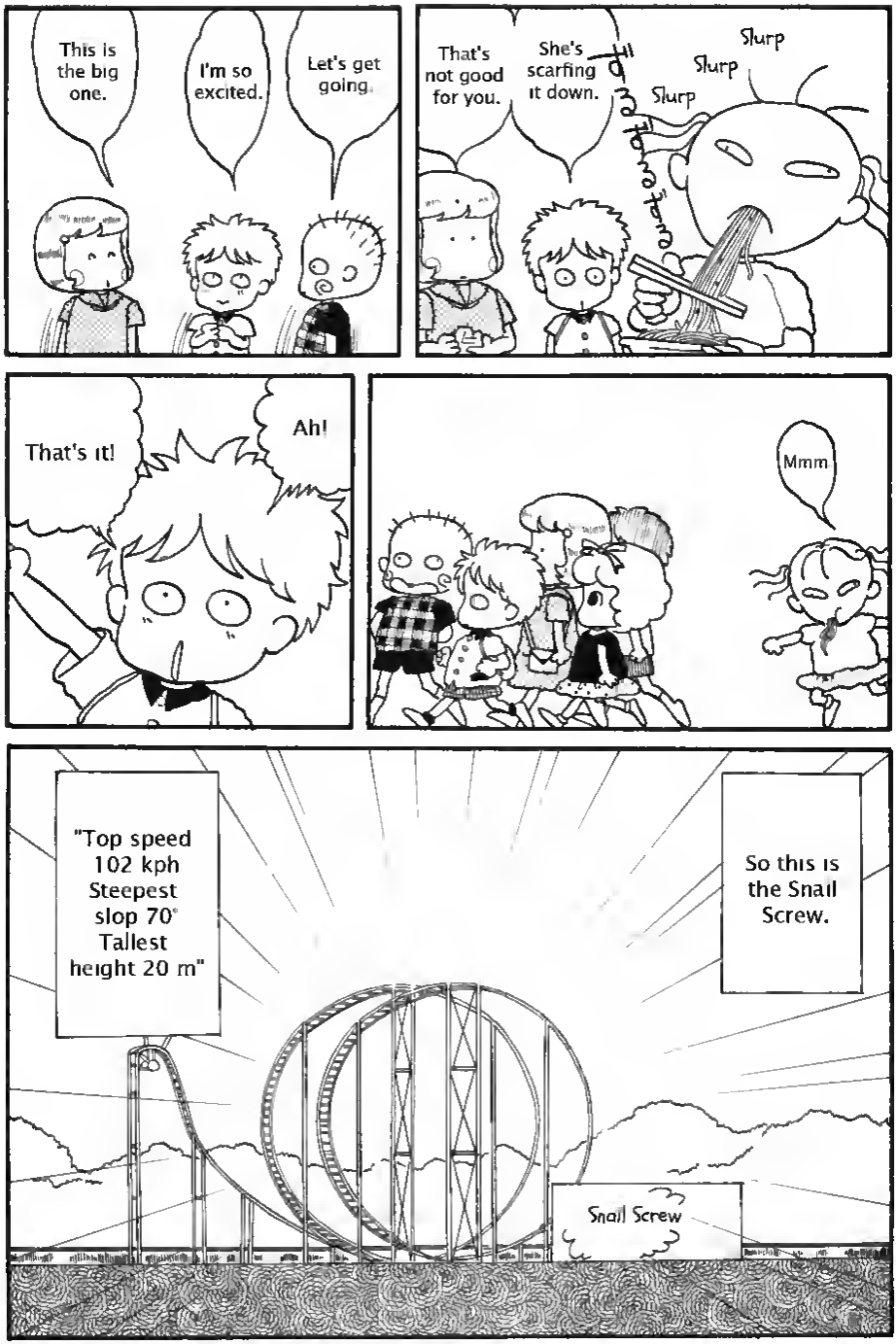

Cry-baby.
You're always crying.
Roller coasters are scary.
I want to go on the merry-go-round
I'll give it a try
Well...
OK
We can start with small ones so you can get used to it
It's fun once you're on it, you'll see.
You'll be okay, Nono.
Go away, go away
I've never actually been on a roller coaster
What should I do?
What should I do?
Mutter
Mutter
I thought we were going on the merry-go-round
Gulp!
WEEEEEE
Click
Click
Click

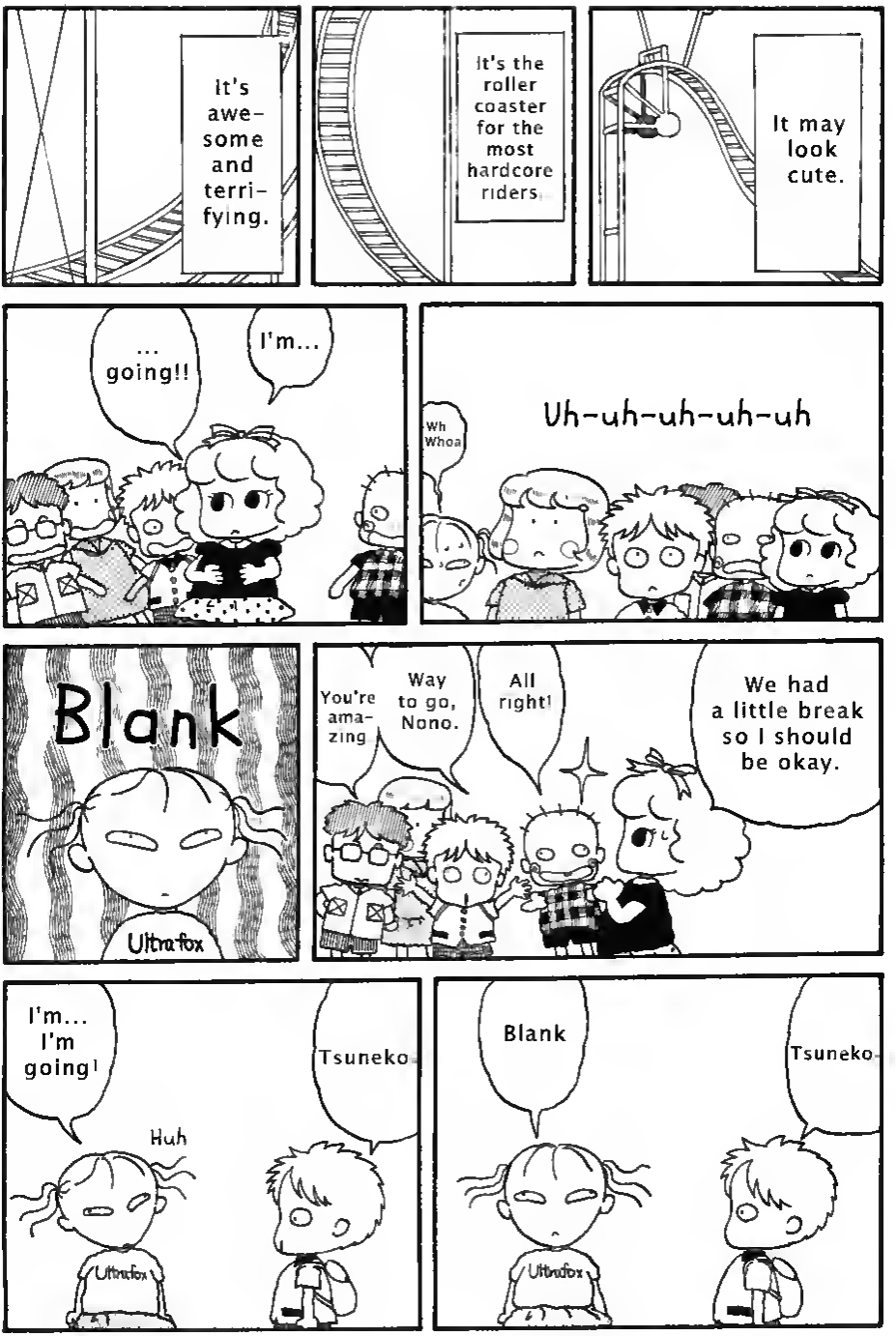

Gulp!
I wanna ride a bigger one!
Sc... Scary...
See?
That wasn't so scary.
Phew
Let's ride the Corkscrew next!
Right.
If Nono's fine, I'm totally fine...
No... No problem.
How was it, Tsuneko?
WHOOSH
I can't go back now.
Why did i have to say that?
This one is scarier.
Mutter
Mutter
AIEEE!
WHOOSH

That was fun!
What a wuss!
Th... that was bad. I feel sick.
Cry-baby.
Oh, that was scary.
That was a yawn.
What're you saying!?
Wh...
You were screaming.
...that I yawned.
It was boring. So boring ...
Um... Of course.
Aren't you coming, Tsuneko?
Gulp!
Let's go on the Flying Pirates next.
We'll stay and watch.

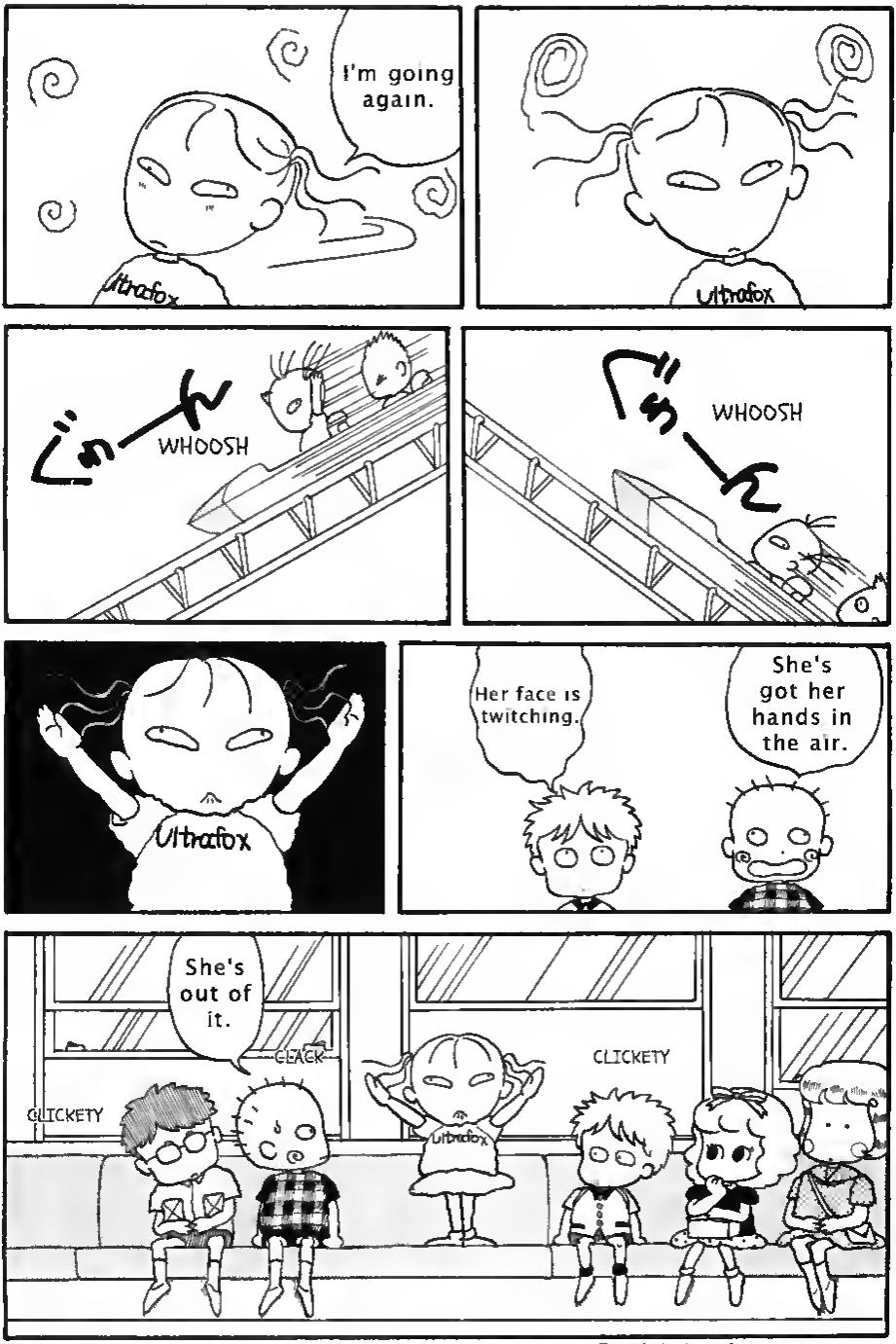

"Flying Pirates
Adult 400 yen"
I can't scream this time.
Mutter
Mutter
YAAAAA
WHOOSH
GRIP
Wh... What're you saying?
Are you okay, Tsuneko? You look green.
Like when you ride an elevator.
That felt weird...
... at all.
This is nooooo-thing...
Spin
Spin
I'm fine.

Ooh.
Should we get lunch?
I'm hungry.
Do you wanna get something to eat?
The new roller coaster, huh.
Let's ride that one after we eat!
Ooh.
I want octopus puff balls.
I want fried noodles.
Exhausted
Gulp!
I want to ride that!
Excited
It's supposed to be really scary.
I was just resting a minute.
Uh.
Aren't you going to eat?
What's wrong?

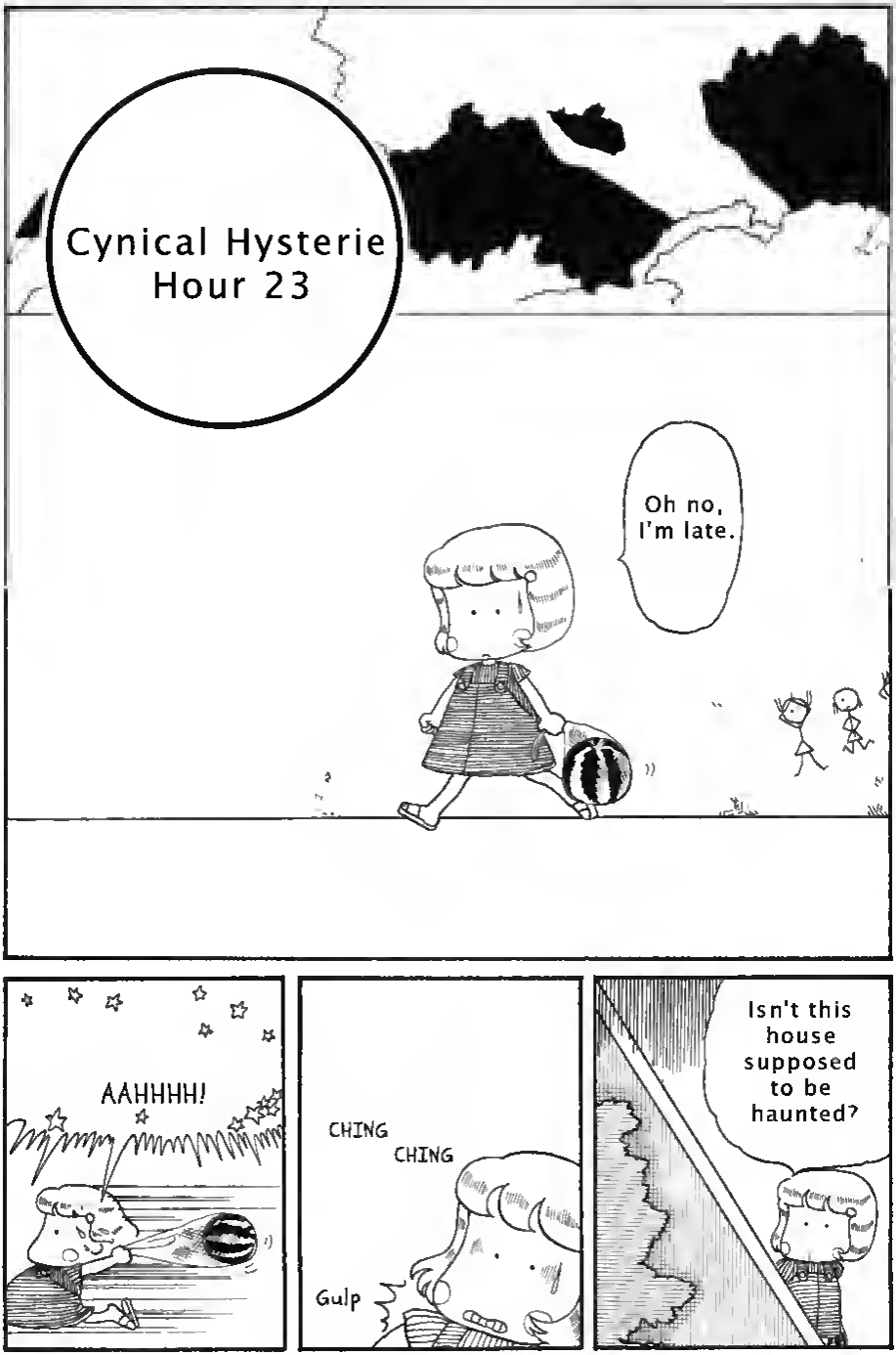

This is the big one.
I'm so excited.
Let's get going.
That's not good for you.
She's scarfing it down.
Slurp
Slurp
Slurp
That's it!
Ah!
Mmm
"Top speed 102 kph Steepest slop 70° Tallest height 20 m"
So this is the Snail Screw.
Snail Screw

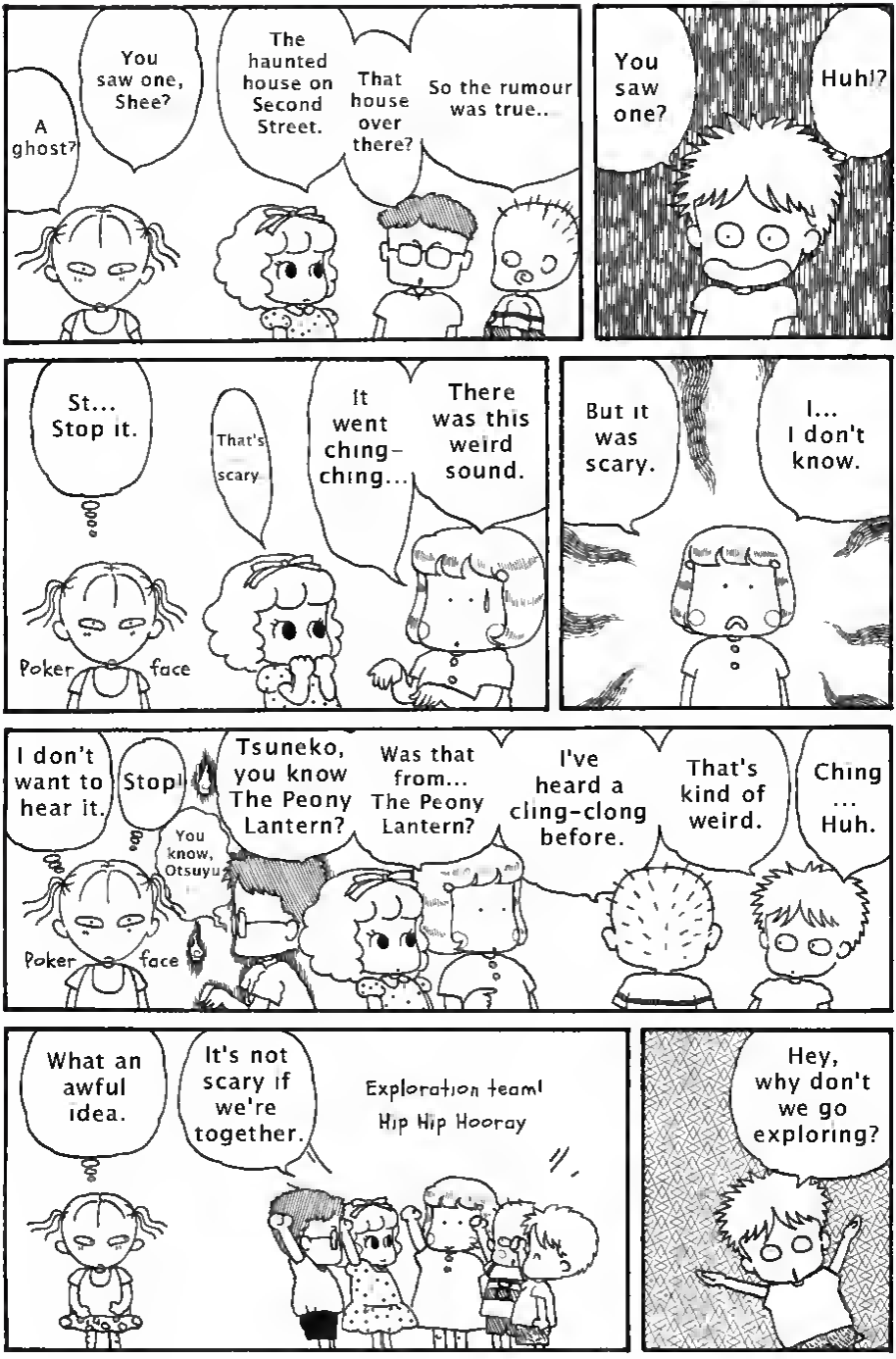

It's awe-some and terri-fying.
It's the roller coaster for the most hardcore riders.
It may look cute.
I'm...
... going!!
Uh-uh-uh-uh-uh
Wh Whoa
Blank
Ultrafox
You're ama-zing
Way to go, Nono.
All right!
We had a little break so I should be okay.
I'm... I'm going!
Huh
Tsuneko
Blank
Tsuneko

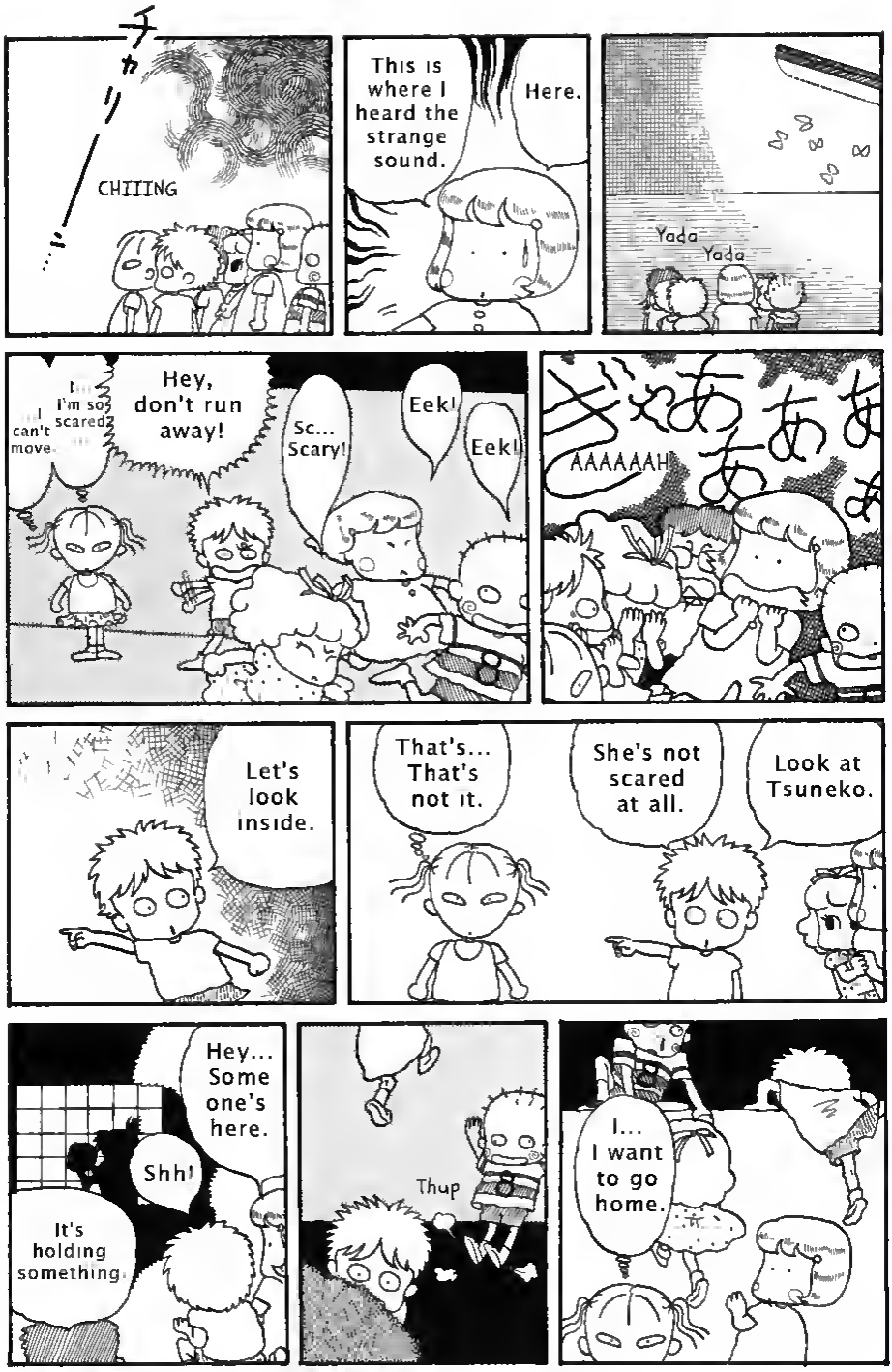
WHOOSH
Well, are we going?
Her eyes are a bit off. .
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
SPIN
SPIN
That was cool.
Someone had both hands in the air, you know.
Oof, that was too much for me.
That was thrilling
Wow!



Special thanks: Reiko Mochizuki & Noriko Nakayama

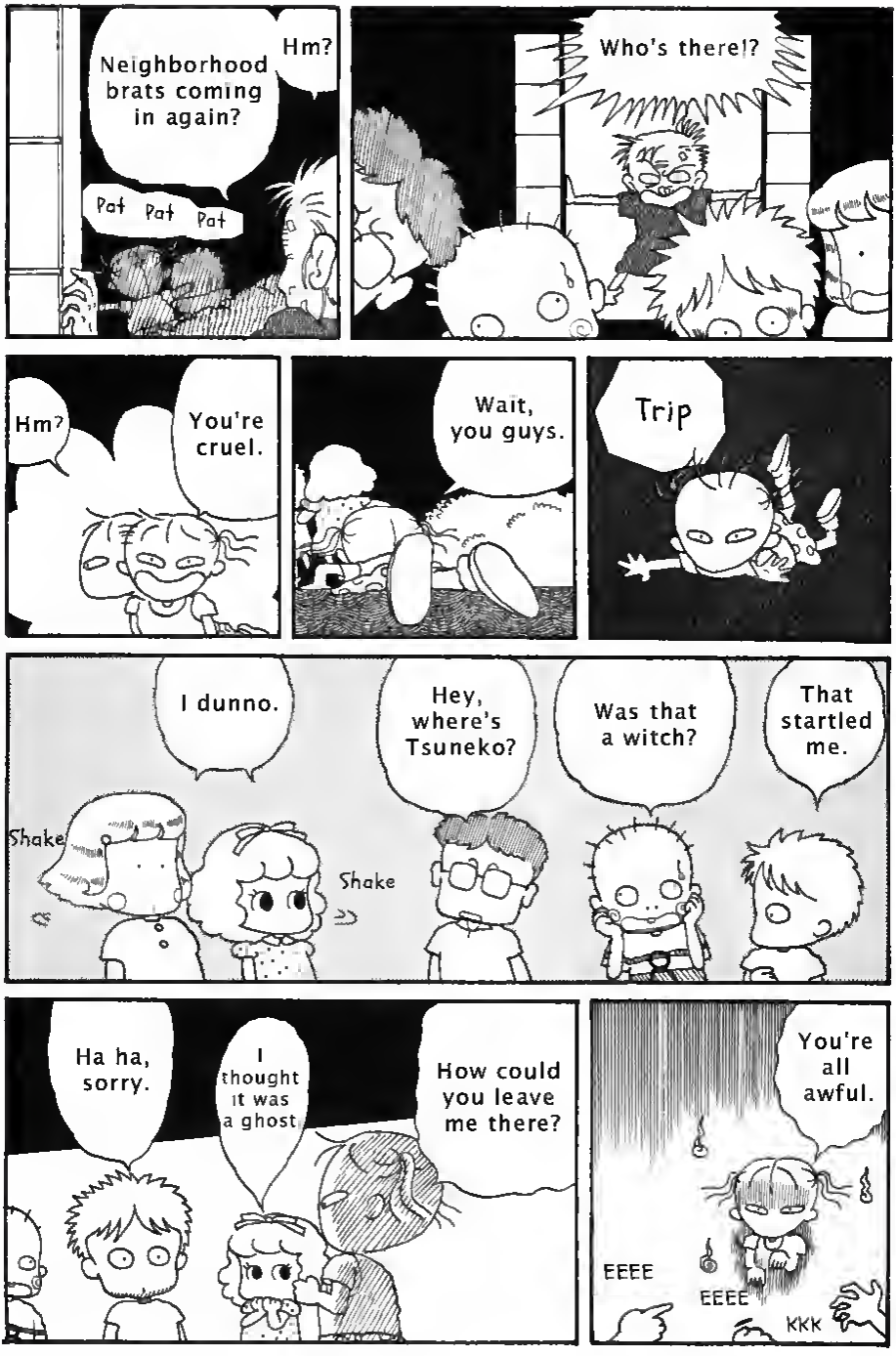

Cynical Hysterie
Hour 23
Oh no,
I'm late.
AAHHHH!
CHING
CHING
Gulp
Isn't this
house
supposed
to be
haunted?

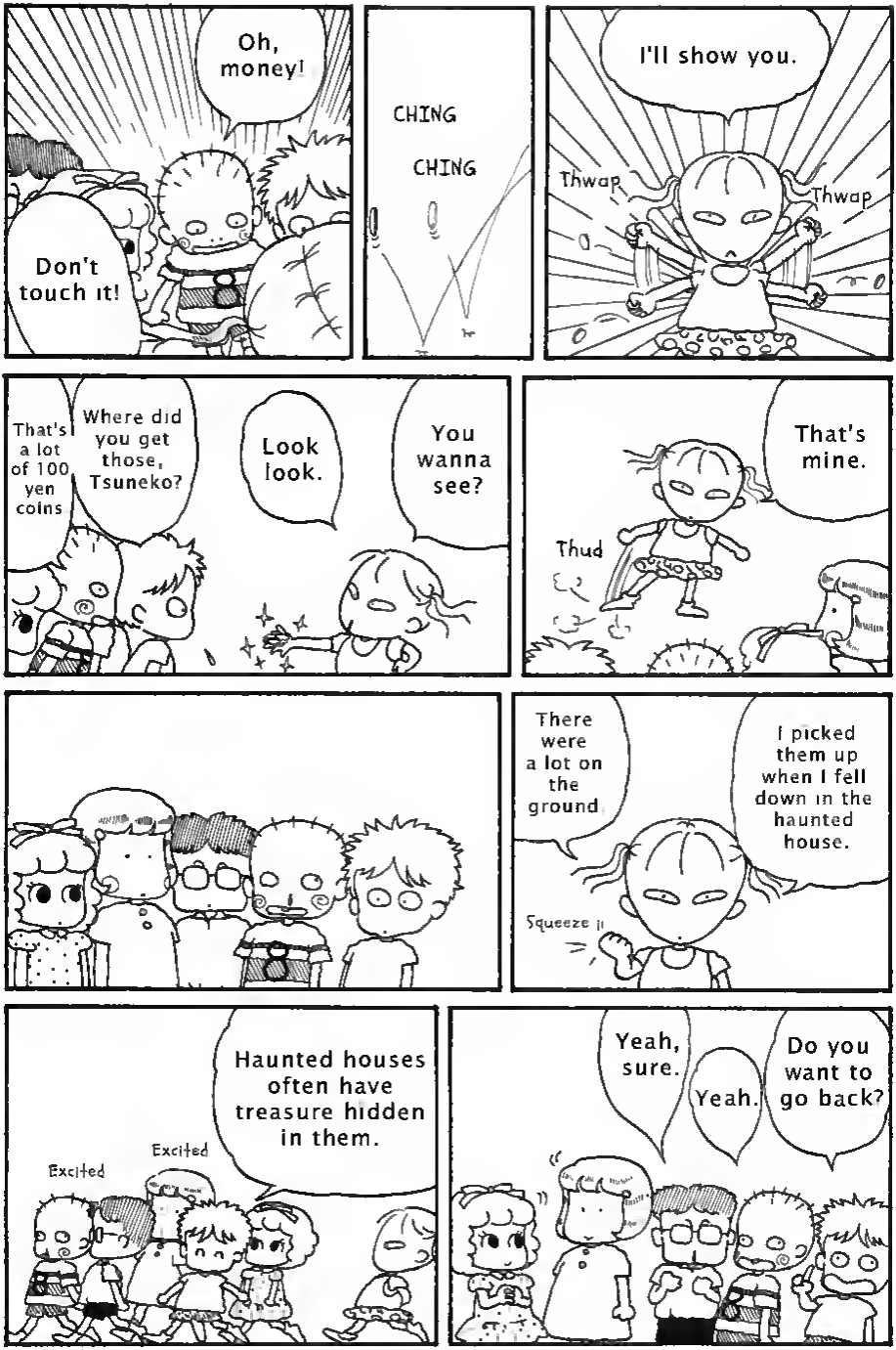

A ghost?
You saw one, Shee?
The haunted house on Second Street.
That house over there?
So the rumour was true..
You saw one?
Huh!?
St... Stop it.
That's scary
It went ching-ching...
There was this weird sound.
Poker face
But it was scary.
I... I don't know.
I don't want to hear it.
Stop!
You know, Otsuyu
Tsuneko, you know The Peony Lantern?
Was that from... The Peony Lantern?
I've heard a cling-clong before.
That's kind of weird.
Ching ... Huh.
Poker face
What an awful idea.
It's not scary if we're together.
Exploration team! Hip Hip Hooray
Hey, why don't we go exploring?


チリリ
CHIIING
This is where I heard the strange sound.
Here.
Yada
Yada
I'm so scared I can't move.
Hey, don't run away!
Sc... Scary!
Eek!
Eek!
AAAAAAH!
Let's look inside.
That's... That's not it.
She's not scared at all.
Look at Tsuneko.
Hey... Some one's here.
Shh!
It's holding something.
Thup
I... I want to go home.

Could it be...
Th... That silhouette...
Heh heh
Two Ching
One Ching
.....
A severed head?
D... don't say it ...
Do you know Bancho Saraya shiki?
Yeah, it's Okiku the ghost
It's the counting from the ghost story, Bancho Sarayashiki
I guess
If they were heads, they wouldn't make that sound.
Se- Severed heads?
It's counting some- thing.
Mom my
I... I don't understand... But... It's scary.
What's no good?
Seven, eight... nine... It's no good.

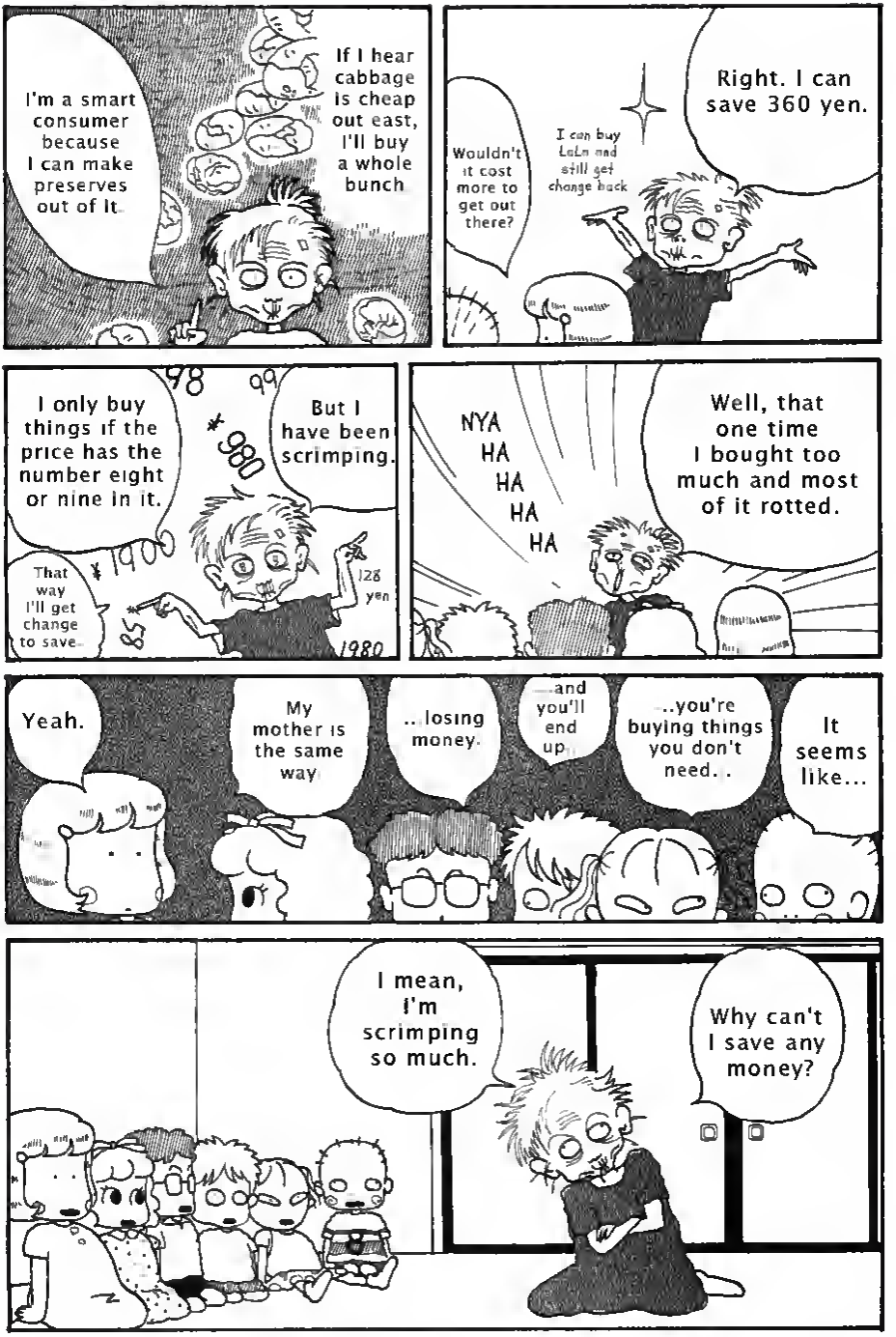
I've saved up my change.
Ching
Ching
I've saved it up.
Hee hee.
It feels so good.
Rub
Rub
I'm saving up money.
Now... I'll write down the number and put it away where it's safe.
Squeak
Squeak
Maybe I actually have more...
I'll count again.
One...
I've saved up so many coins, but they don't seem to add up to anything.
But...
Hm?
Whisper
Whisper
Whisper
There aren't any more.
Slump
...eight, nine...
four, five...
It's no use

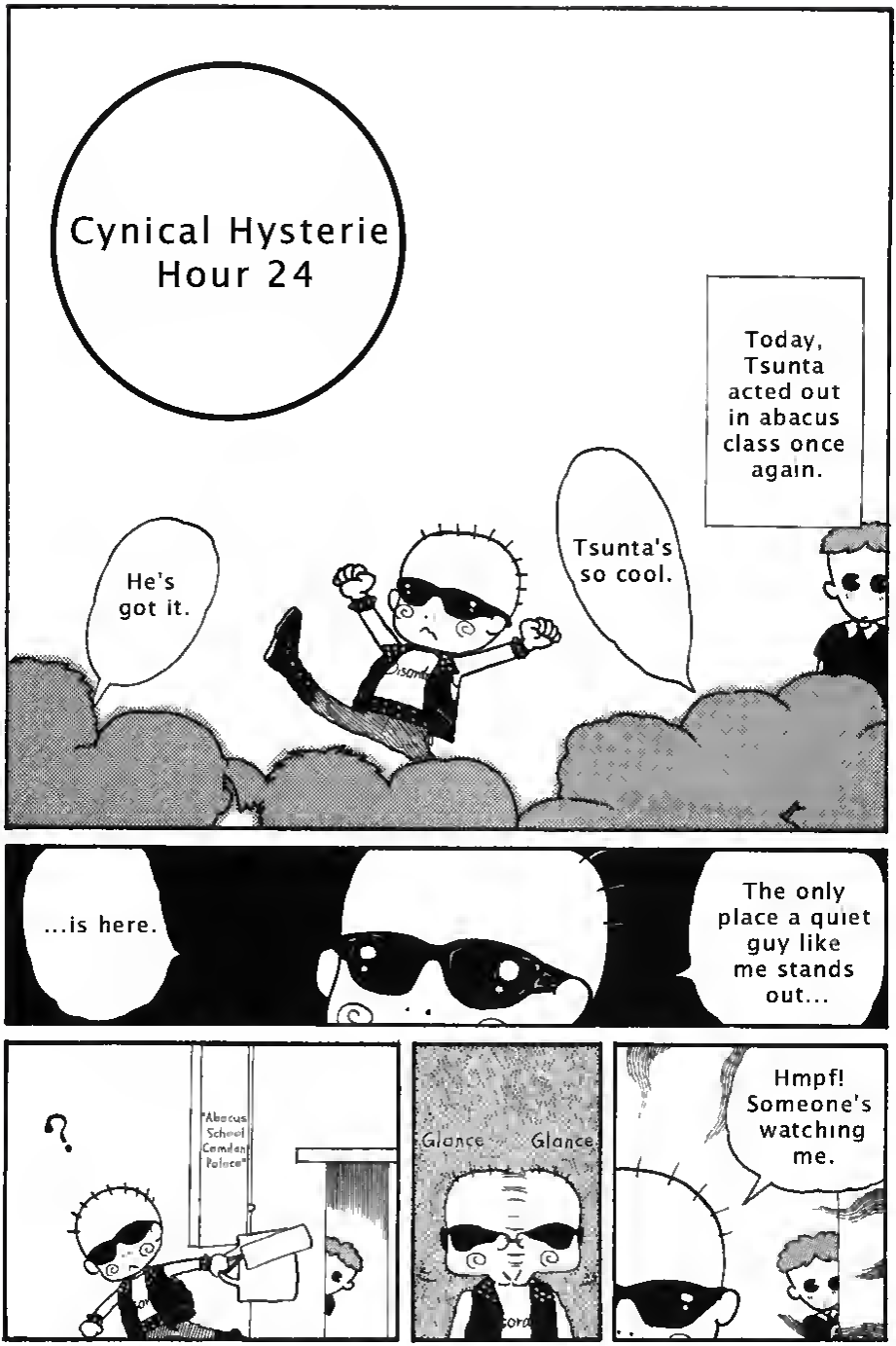

Hm?
Neighborhood brats coming in again?
Pat Pat Pat
Who's there!?
Hm?
You're cruel.
Wait, you guys.
Trip
I dunno.
Hey, where's Tsuneko?
Was that a witch?
That startled me.
Shake
Shake
Ha ha, sorry.
I thought it was a ghost
How could you leave me there?
You're all awful.
EEEE
EEEE
KKK

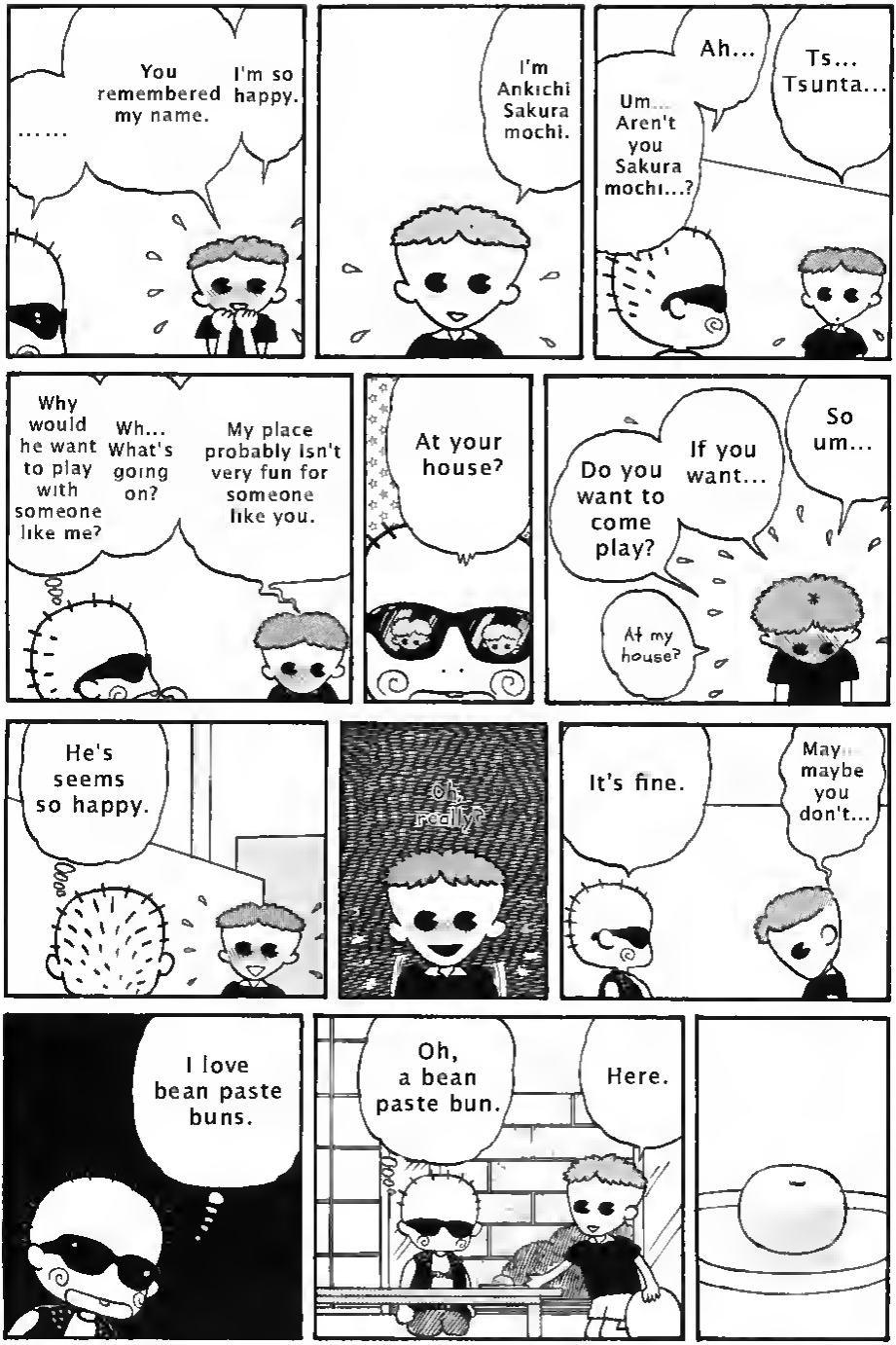

Oh, money!
Don't touch it!
CHING
CHING
I'll show you.
Thwap
Thwap
That's a lot of 100 yen coins
Where did you get those, Tsuneko?
Look look.
You wanna see?
That's mine.
Thud
There were a lot on the ground.
I picked them up when I fell down in the haunted house.
Squeeze
Haunted houses often have treasure hidden in them.
Excited
Excited
Yeah, sure.
Yeah.
Do you want to go back?

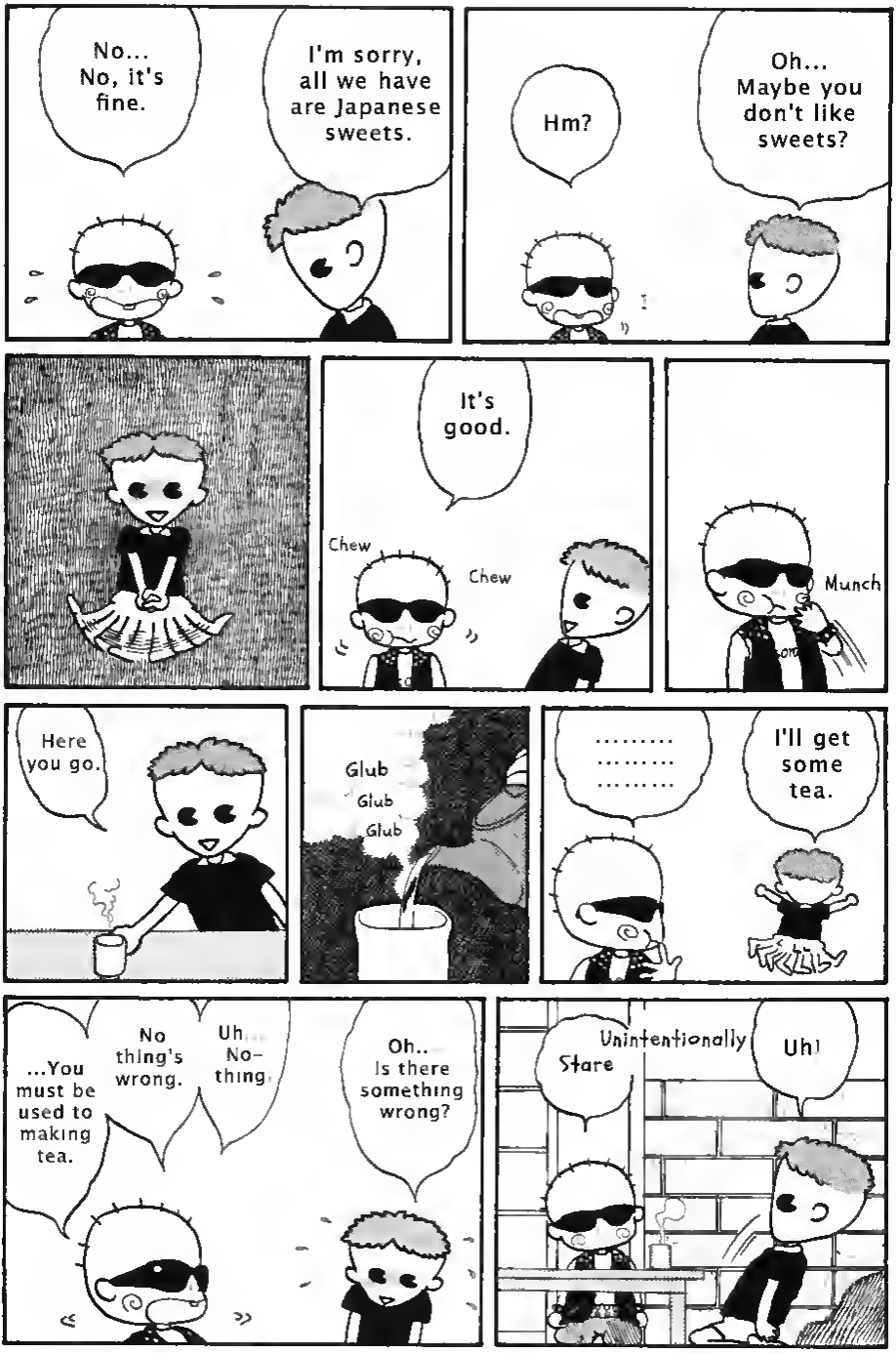
Idiot!
Tsuneko tripped over a bucket.
RATTLE CRASH
Don't make any noise.
This time we'll sneak in un-detected.
Ugh!
Why am I always the one tripping?
Ow-ow-ow-ow.
A WITCH!
Eeeek!
You're the girl who was just here.
My coins!
Ah!
What's this?
Hm?

B... by the shrubbery over there.
Where did you find this?
Look, my name's on them.
Monte Rich
They're mine.
These are mine.
Stingy
Have some water. You must be thirsty.
Is that so? And you brought them to me, huh?
Smile
Change
Are you rich?
I was keeping 100 yen coins in there, so it would've been a big loss.
Ah!
Thanks to you, I found the coins from Number 21 that I lost while counting in the sun the other day.
If you use one toothbrush each month, do you know how much you save?
360 yen.
Simple math
If toothbrushes were even 10 yen cheaper out west, I'd do anything to get out there and I'd buy three years' worth.
I've been scrimping and saving for decades
SALE!
I can't save up anything.
Uh, no.
Shake
Shake

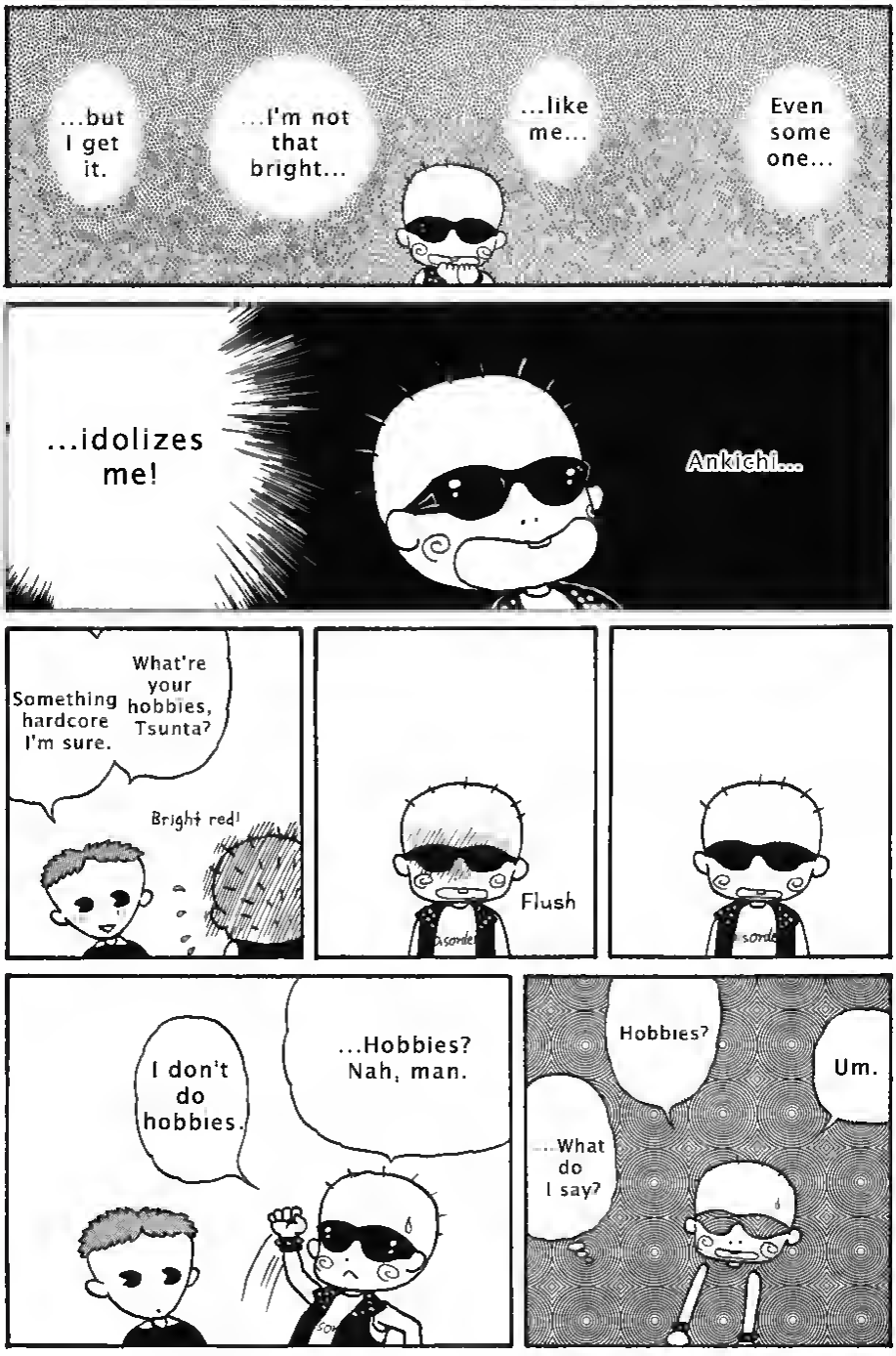

I'm a smart consumer because I can make preserves out of it.
If I hear cabbage is cheap out east, I'll buy a whole bunch
Right. I can save 360 yen.
I can buy LaLa and still get change back
Wouldn't it cost more to get out there?
I only buy things if the price has the number eight or nine in it.
But I have been scrimping.
98
99
*980
¥1900
That way I'll get change to save
128 yen
1980
NYA HA HA HA HA
Well, that one time I bought too much and most of it rotted.
Yeah.
My mother is the same way
..losing money.
—and you'll end up
—..you're buying things you don't need..
It seems like...
I mean, I'm scrimping so much.
Why can't I save any money?

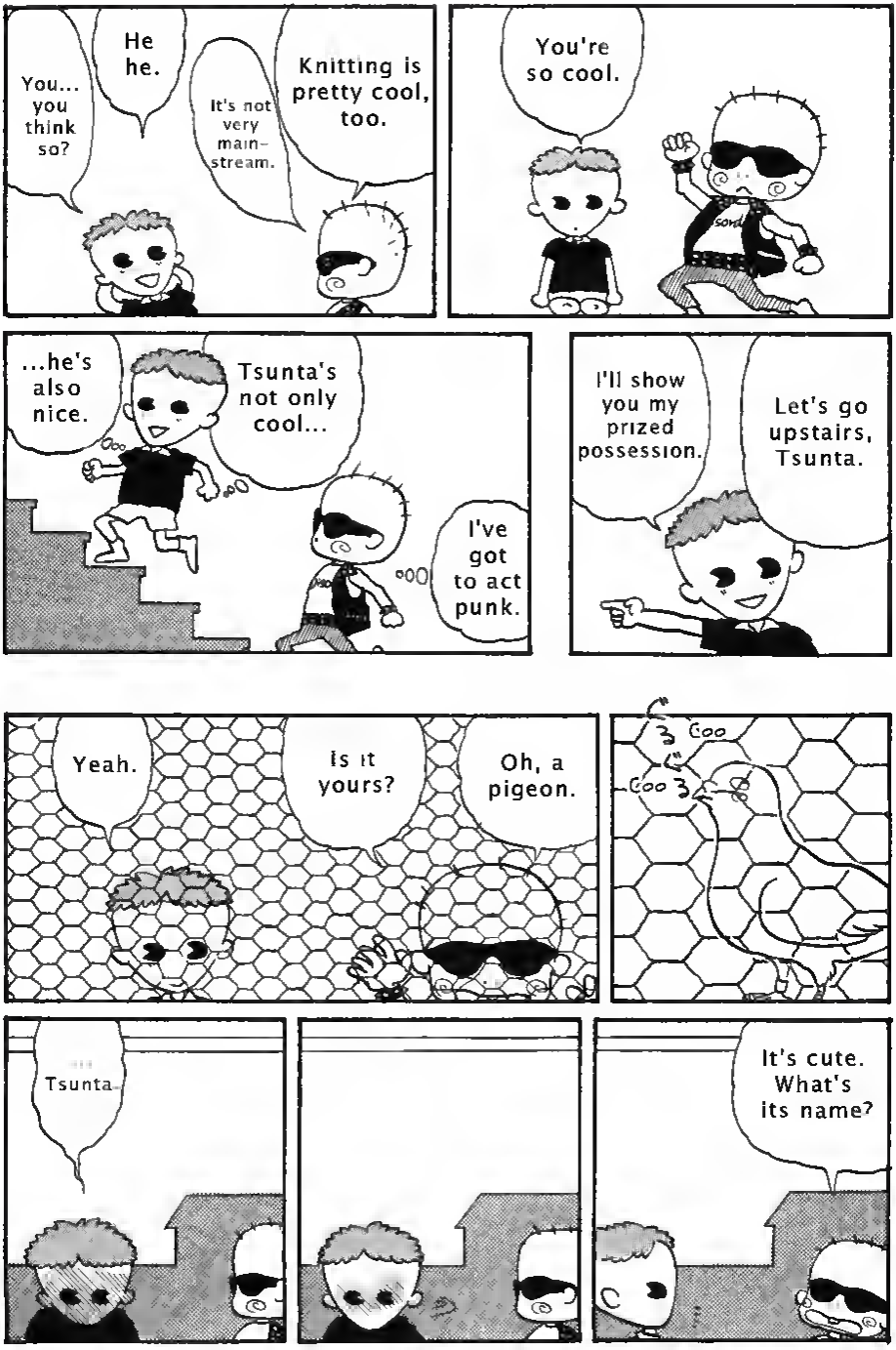

Cynical Hysterie
Hour 24
Today, Tsunta acted out in abacus class once again.
Tsunta's so cool.
He's got it.
...is here.
The only place a quiet guy like me stands out...
?
"Abacus School Camden Palace"
Glance
Glance
Hmpf! Someone's watching me.

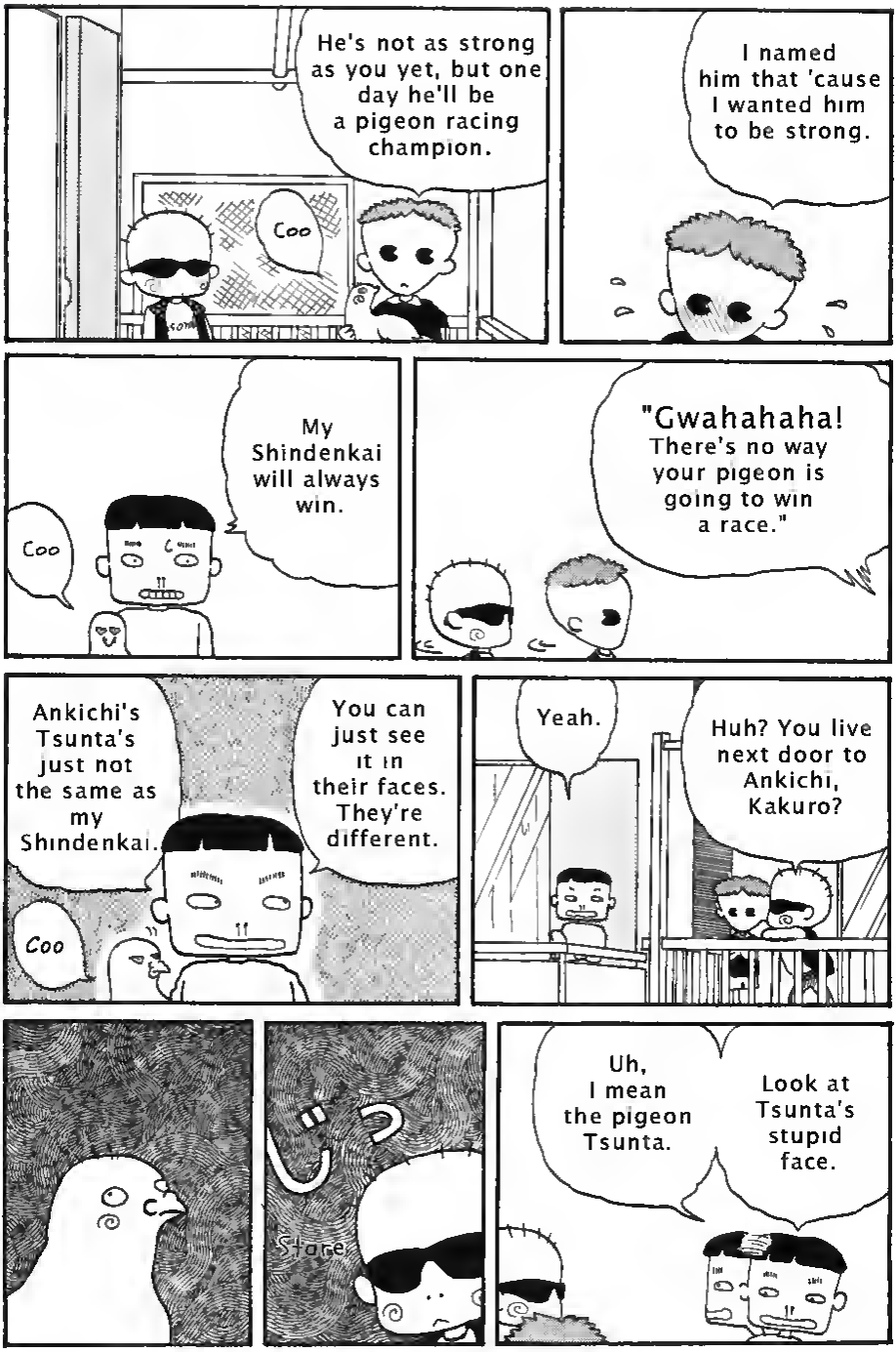

.....
You remembered my name.
I'm so happy.
I'm Ankichi Sakura mochi.
Ah...
Ts... Tsunta...
Um... Aren't you Sakura mochi...?
Why would he want to play with someone like me?
Wh... What's going on?
My place probably isn't very fun for someone like you.
At your house?
So um...
If you want...
Do you want to come play?
At my house?
He's seems so happy.
Oh, really?
It's fine.
May... maybe you don't...
I love bean paste buns.
Oh, a bean paste bun.
Here.

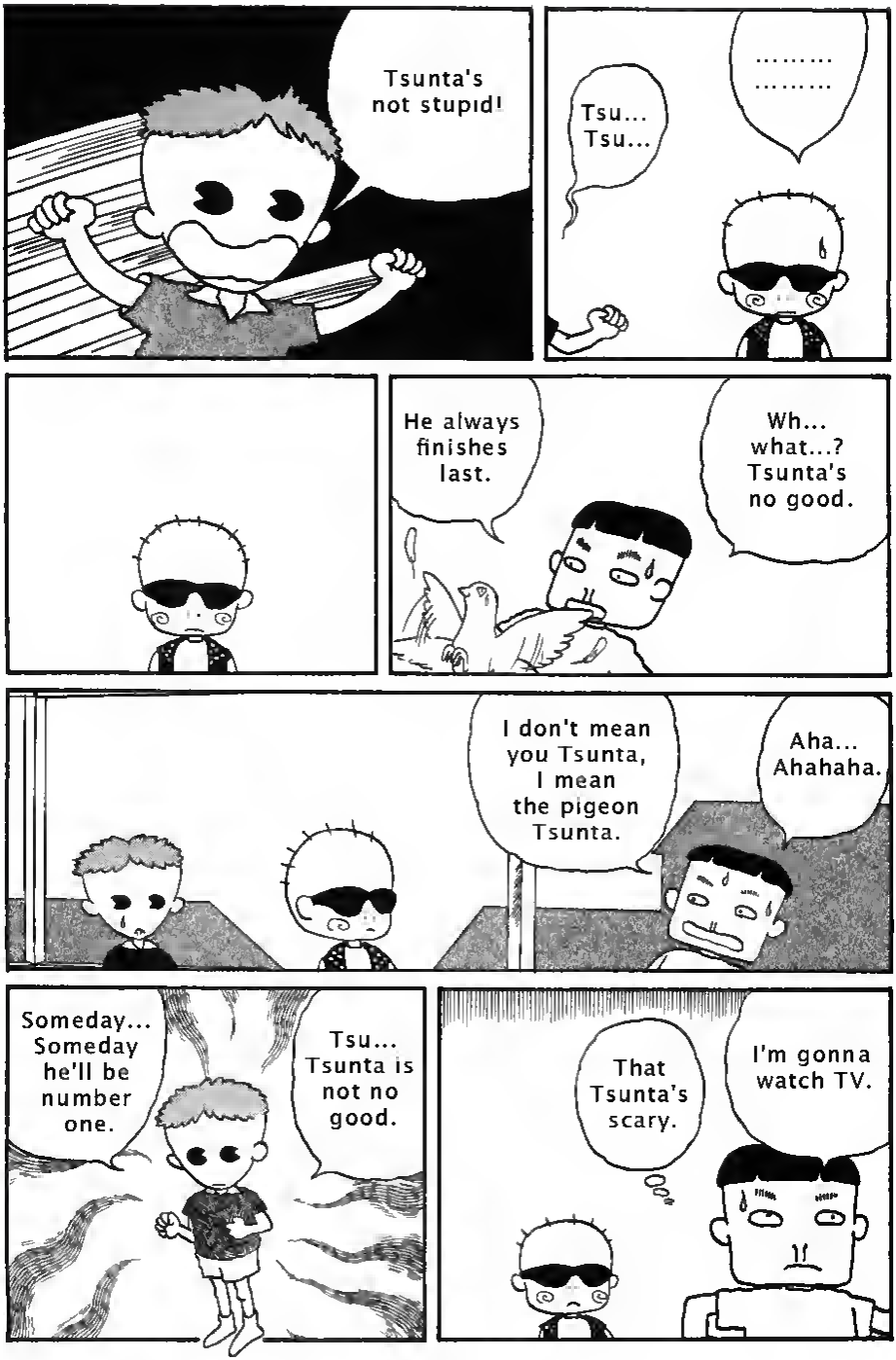

No... No, it's fine.
I'm sorry, all we have are Japanese sweets.
Hm?
Oh... Maybe you don't like sweets?
It's good.
Chew
Chew
Munch
Here you go.
Glub
Glub
Glub
.....
.....
.....
I'll get some tea.
...You must be used to making tea.
No thing's wrong.
Uh... No-thing.
Oh.. Is there something wrong?
Unintentionally Stare
Uh!

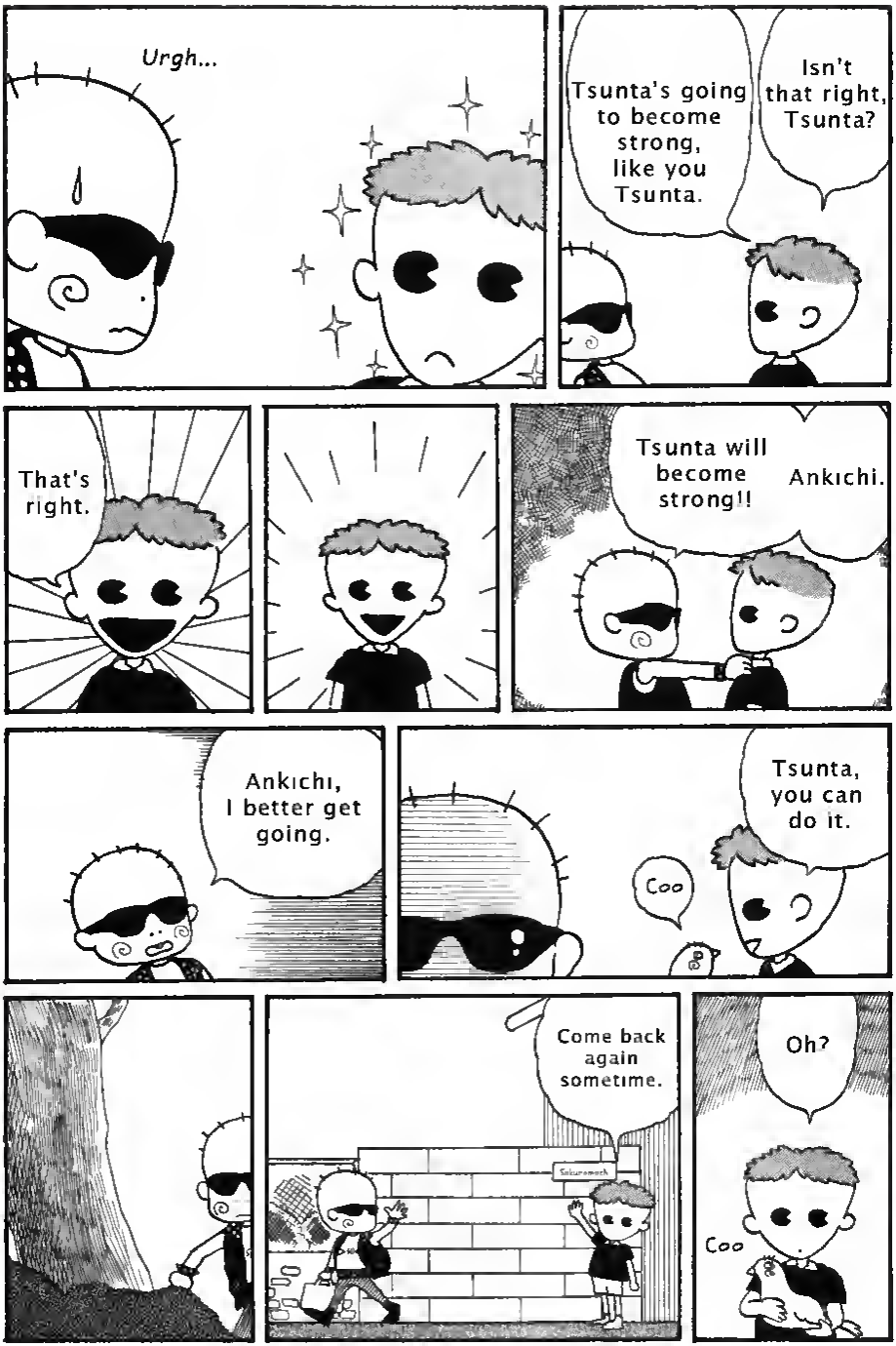
Wow, that's good of you Ankichi.
...so I take care of the house.
My mom works...
So you made this, Ankichi?
Hmm.
Hey... Hey, wait here for a sec.
Pat Pat Pat
I wish I was more hardcore, like you!
I...
B... But... It's kind of girly, isn't it?
You're good with your hands.
E...
E...
Flush

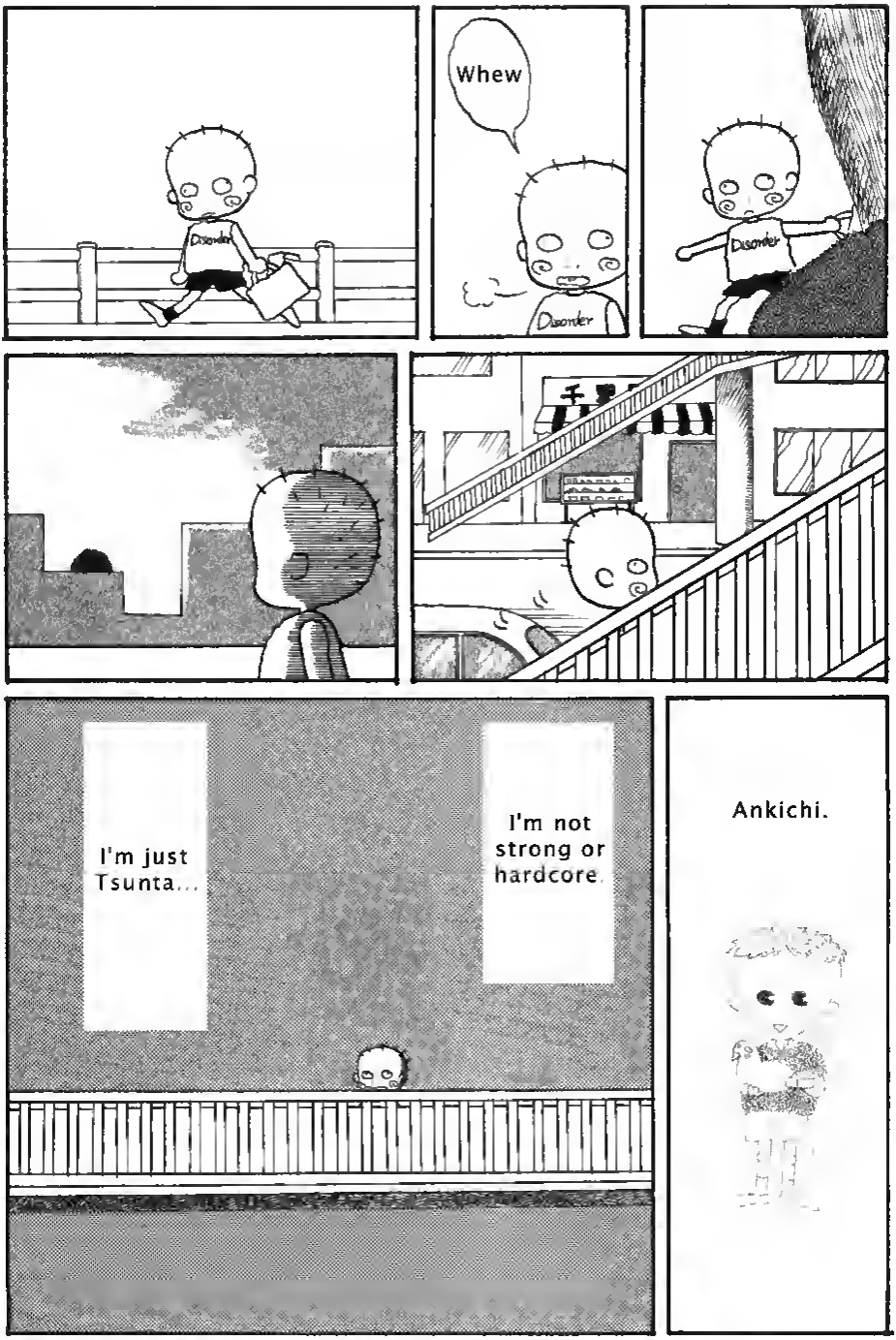

...but I get it.
...I'm not that bright...
...like me...
Even some one...
...idolizes me!
Ankichi...
What're your hobbies, Tsunta?
Something hardcore I'm sure.
Bright red!
Flush
...Hobbies? Nah, man.
I don't do hobbies.
Hobbies?
Um.
...What do I say?

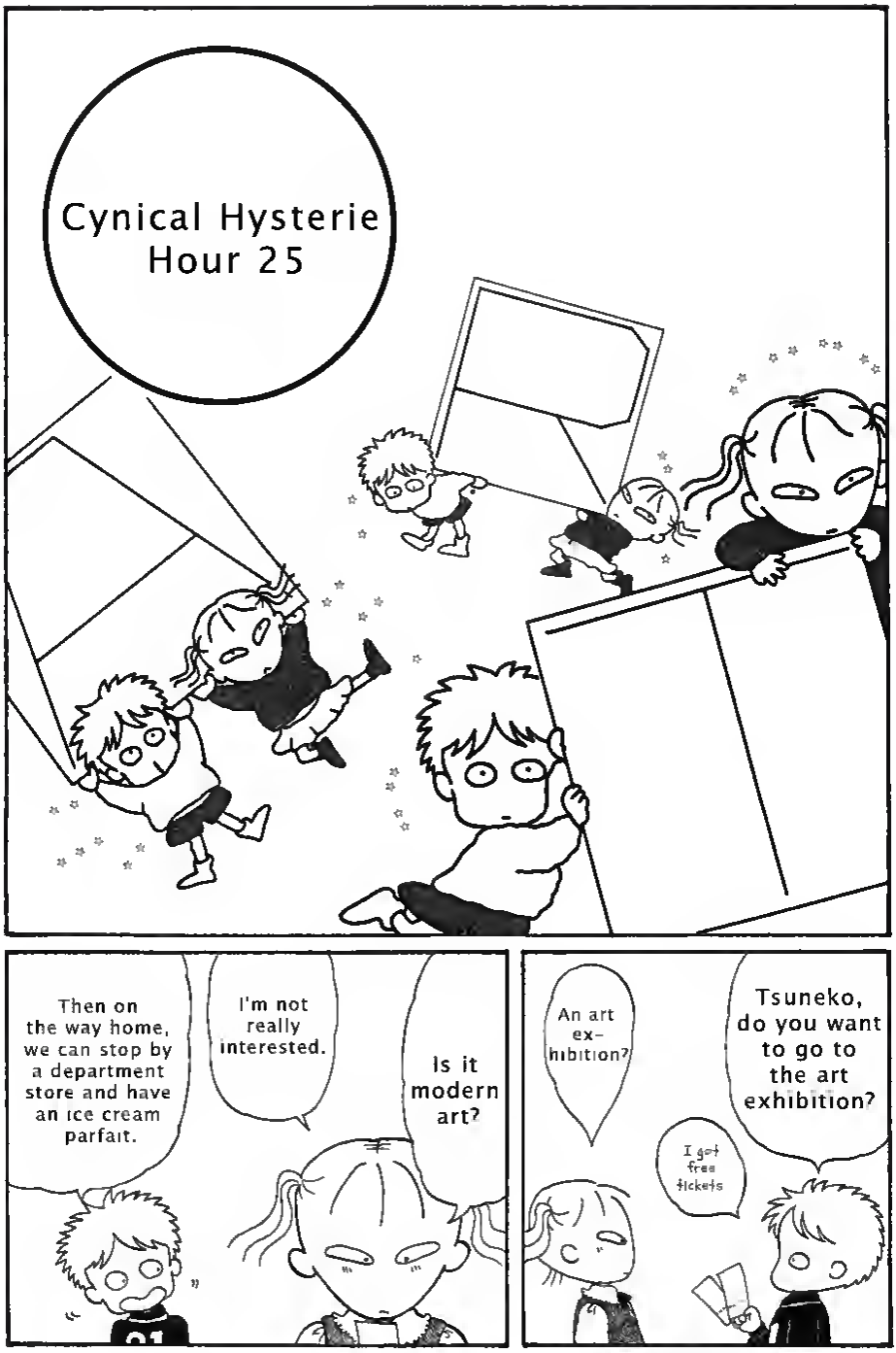

You... you think so?
He he.
It's not very main-stream.
Knitting is pretty cool, too.
You're so cool.
...he's also nice.
Tsunta's not only cool...
I've got to act punk.
I'll show you my prized possession.
Let's go upstairs, Tsunta.
Yeah.
Is it yours?
Oh, a pigeon.
Coo
Coo
Tsunta
It's cute. What's its name?

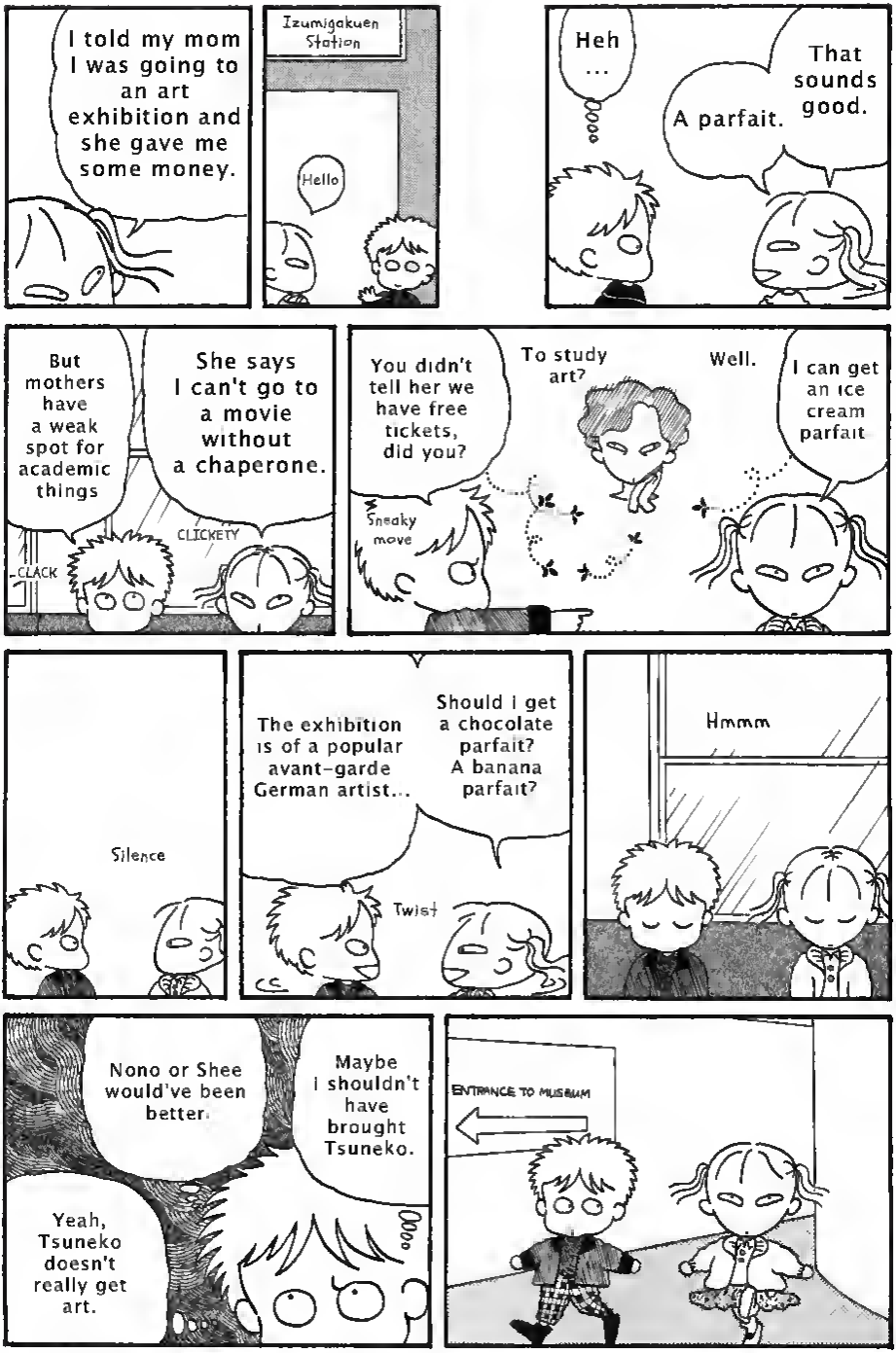

He's not as strong as you yet, but one day he'll be a pigeon racing champion.
Coo
I named him that 'cause I wanted him to be strong.
My Shindenkai will always win.
Coo
"Gwahahaha! There's no way your pigeon is going to win a race."
Ankichi's Tsunta's just not the same as my Shindenkai.
You can just see it in their faces. They're different.
Coo
Yeah.
Huh? You live next door to Ankichi, Kakuro?
Stare
Uh, I mean the pigeon Tsunta.
Look at Tsunta's stupid face.

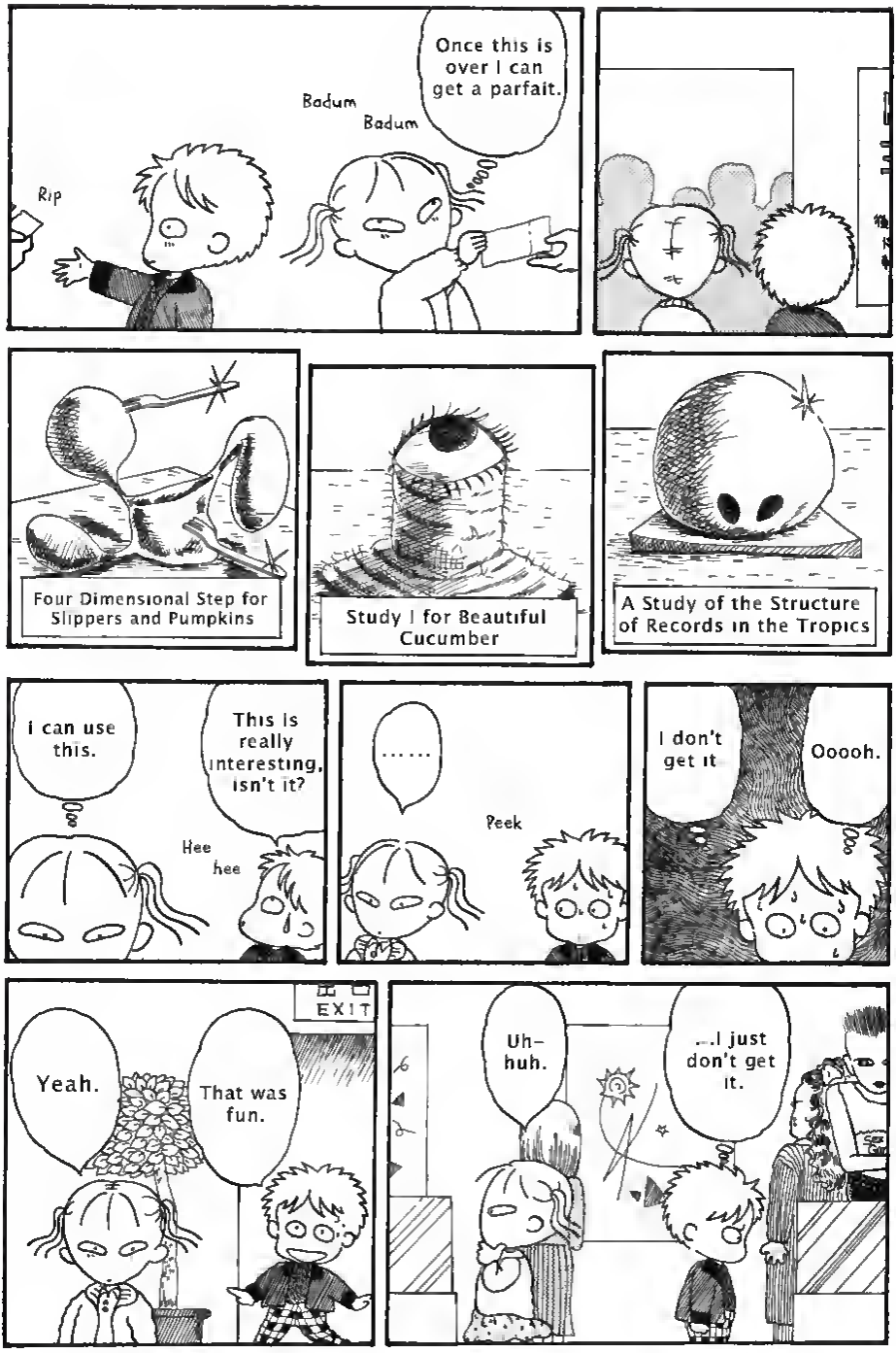

Tsunta's not stupid!
Tsu... Tsu...
.....
.....
He always finishes last.
Wh... what...? Tsunta's no good.
I don't mean you Tsunta, I mean the pigeon Tsunta.
Aha... Ahahaha.
Someday... Someday he'll be number one.
Tsu... Tsunta is not no good.
That Tsunta's scary.
I'm gonna watch TV.

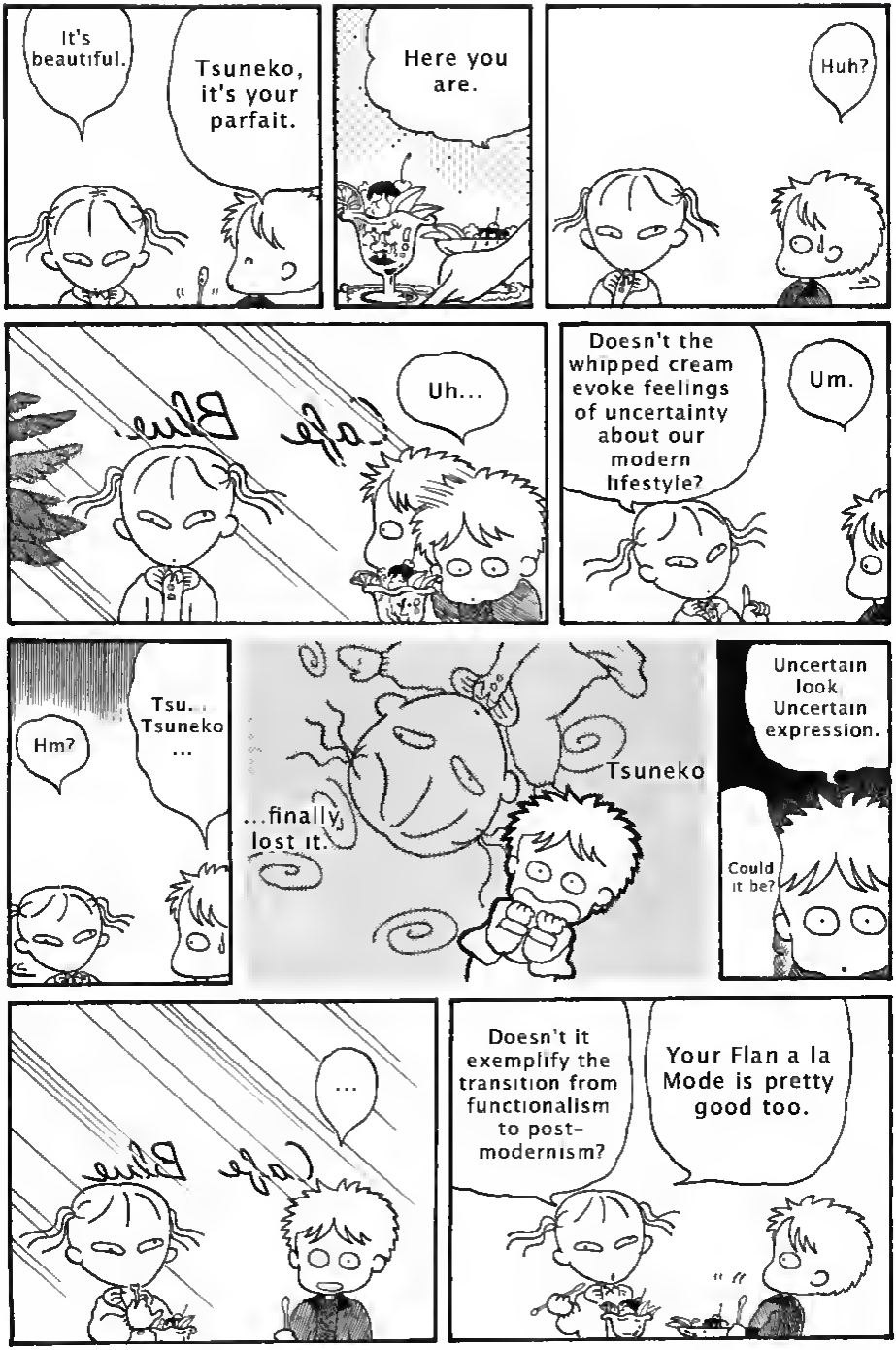

Urgh...
Tsunta's going to become strong, like you Tsunta.
Isn't that right, Tsunta?
That's right.
Tsunta will become strong!!
Ankichi.
Ankichi, I better get going.
Tsunta, you can do it.
Coo
Come back again sometime.
Oh?
Coo

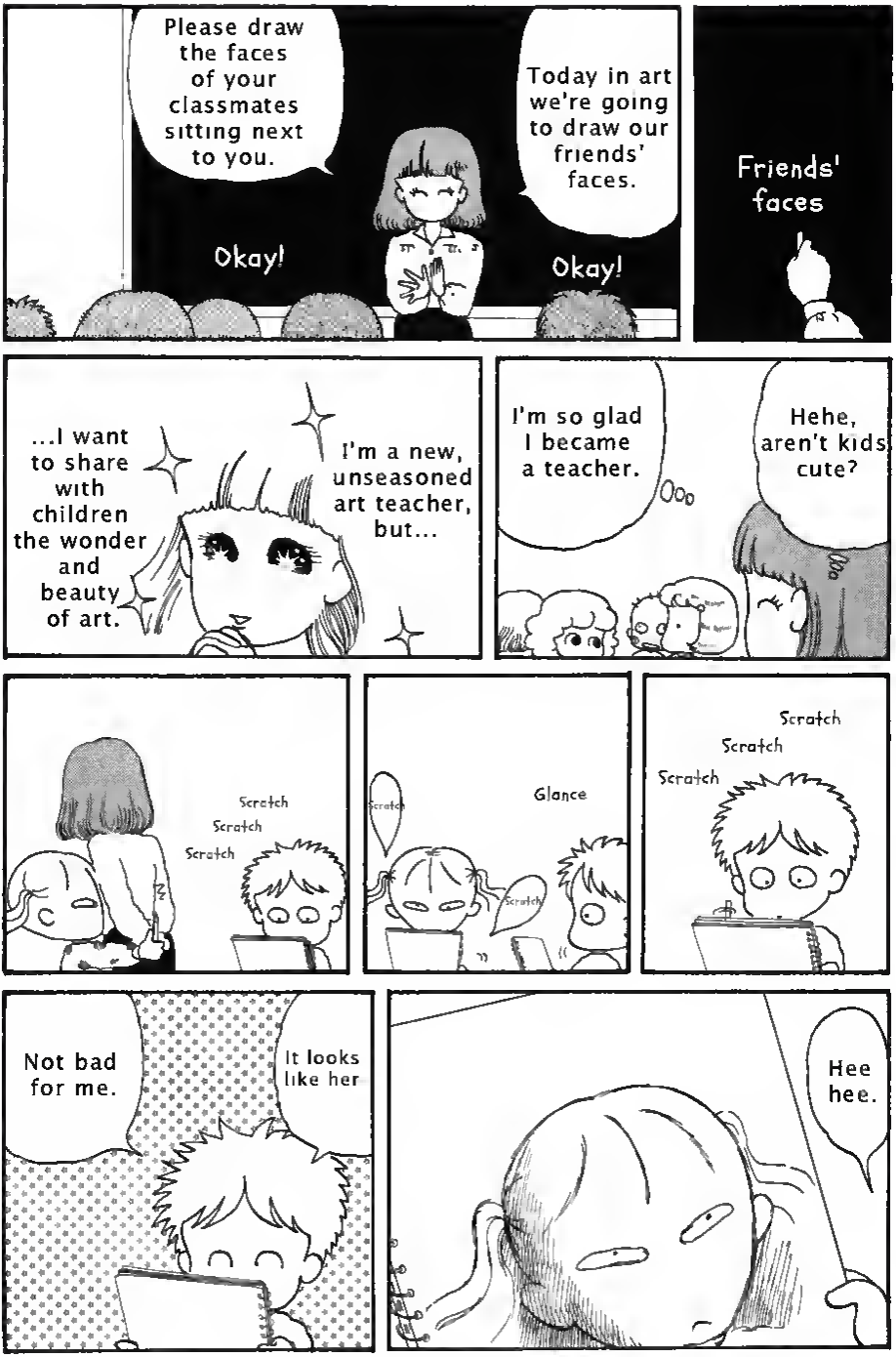

Disorder
Whew
Disorder
Disorder
I'm just Tsunta...
I'm not strong or hardcore.
Ankichi.

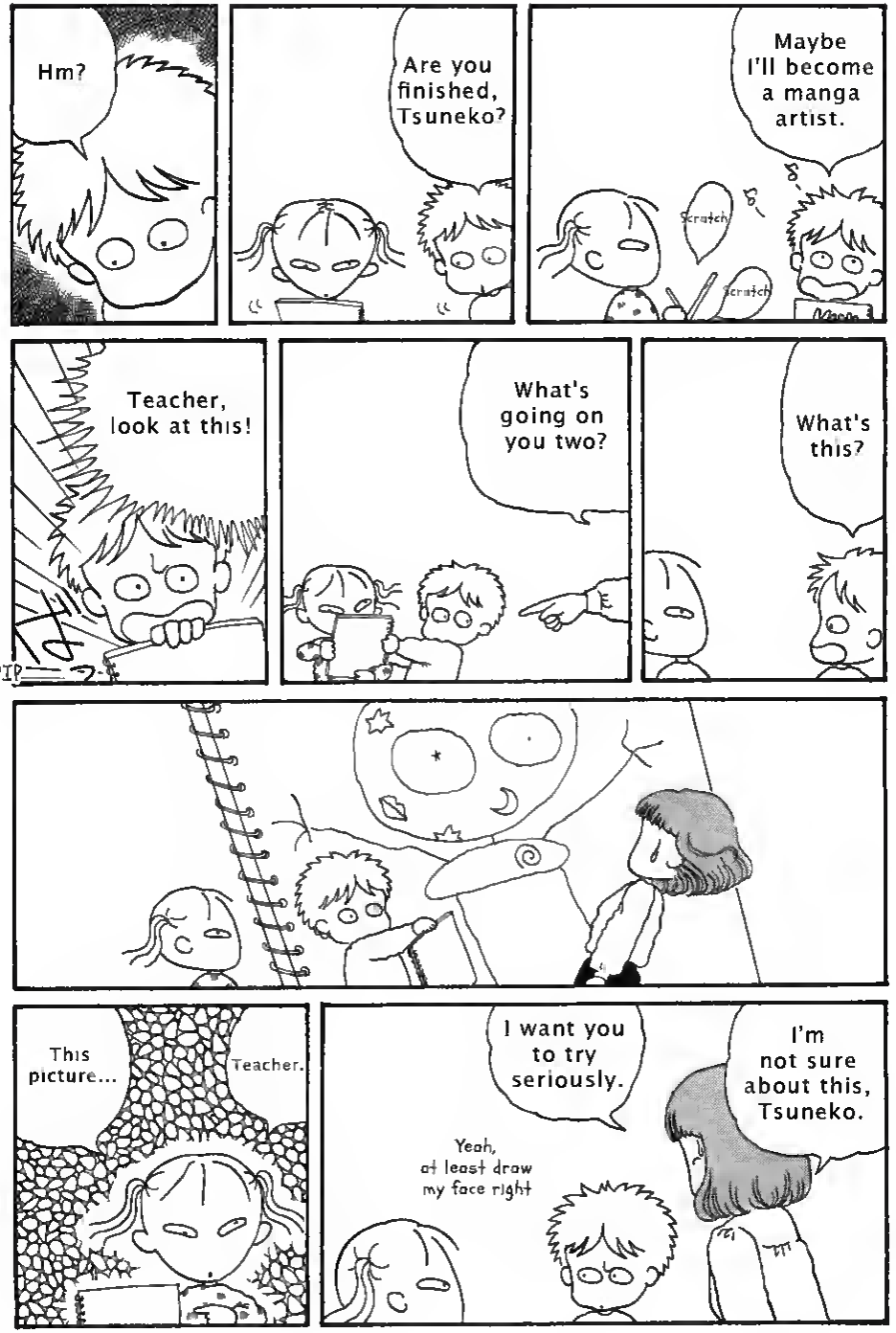

Cynical Hysterie
Hour 25
Then on the way home, we can stop by a department store and have an ice cream parfait.
I'm not really interested.
Is it modern art?
An art ex-hibition?
I got free tickets
Tsuneko, do you want to go to the art exhibition?

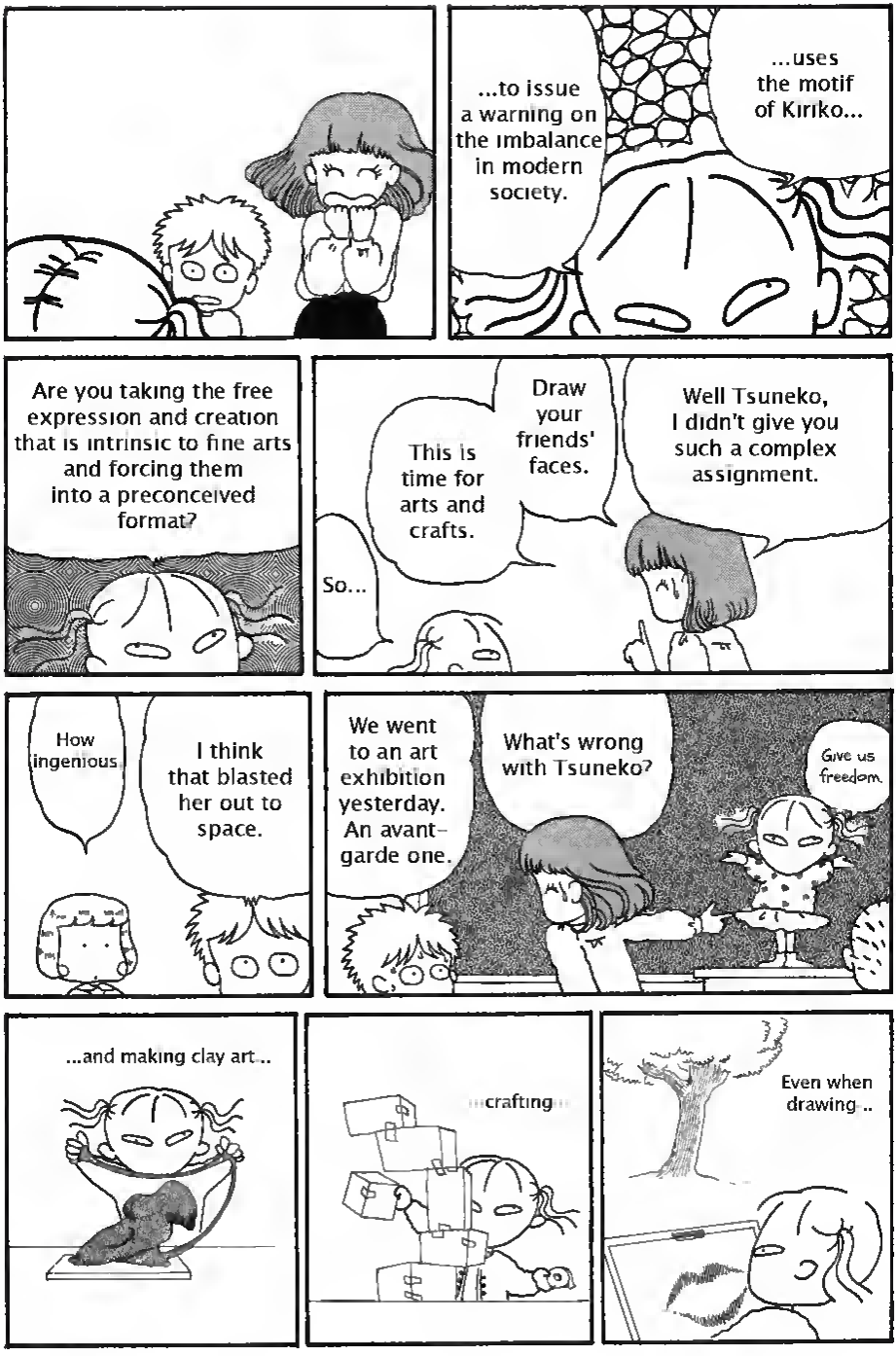

I told my mom I was going to an art exhibition and she gave me some money.
Izumigakuen Station
Hello
Heh ...
That sounds good.
A parfait.
But mothers have a weak spot for academic things
She says I can't go to a movie without a chaperone.
-CLACK
CLICKETY
You didn't tell her we have free tickets, did you?
To study art?
Well.
I can get an ice cream parfait
Sneaky move
Silence
The exhibition is of a popular avant-garde German artist...
Should I get a chocolate parfait? A banana parfait?
Twist
Hmmm
Nono or Shee would've been better.
Maybe I shouldn't have brought Tsuneko.
Yeah, Tsuneko doesn't really get art.
ENTRANCE TO MUSEUM


Rip
Badum
Badum
Once this is over I can get a parfait.
Four Dimensional Step for Slippers and Pumpkins
Study I for Beautiful Cucumber
A Study of the Structure of Records in the Tropics
I can use this.
This is really interesting, isn't it?
Hee hee
.....
Peek
I don't get it
Ooooh.
EXIT
Yeah.
That was fun.
Uh-huh.
...I just don't get it.


It's beautiful.
Tsuneko, it's your parfait.
Here you are.
Huh?
Uh...
Doesn't the whipped cream evoke feelings of uncertainty about our modern lifestyle?
Um.
Hm?
Tsu... Tsuneko ...
...finally lost it.
Tsuneko
Uncertain look. Uncertain expression.
Could it be?
...
Doesn't it exemplify the transition from functionalism to post-modernism?
Your Flan a la Mode is pretty good too.


Please draw the faces of your classmates sitting next to you.
Okay!
Today in art we're going to draw our friends' faces.
Okay!
Friends' faces
...I want to share with children the wonder and beauty of art.
I'm a new, unseasoned art teacher, but...
I'm so glad I became a teacher.
Hehe, aren't kids cute?
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch
Glance
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch
Not bad for me.
It looks like her
Hee hee.

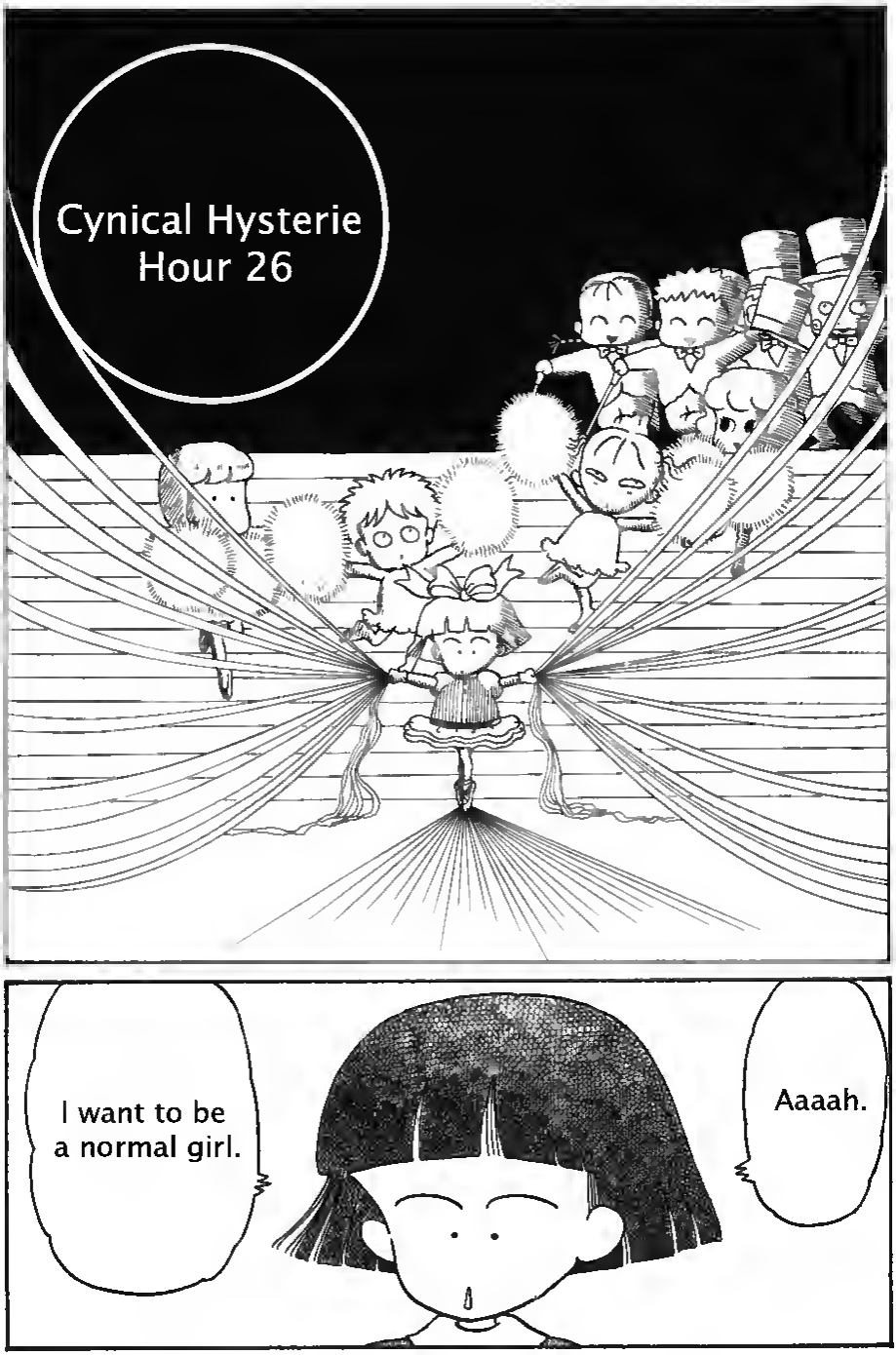

Hm?
Are you finished, Tsuneko?
Maybe I'll become a manga artist.
So~
Scratch
Scratch
Teacher, look at this!
What's going on you two?
What's this?
FWIP
This picture...
Teacher.
I want you to try seriously.
Yeah, at least draw my face right
I'm not sure about this, Tsuneko.


...to issue a warning on the imbalance in modern society.
...uses the motif of Kiriko...
Are you taking the free expression and creation that is intrinsic to fine arts and forcing them into a preconceived format?
So...
This is time for arts and crafts.
Draw your friends' faces.
Well Tsuneko, I didn't give you such a complex assignment.
How ingenious
I think that blasted her out to space.
We went to an art exhibition yesterday. An avant-garde one.
What's wrong with Tsuneko?
Give us freedom
...and making clay art...
crafting
Even when drawing...

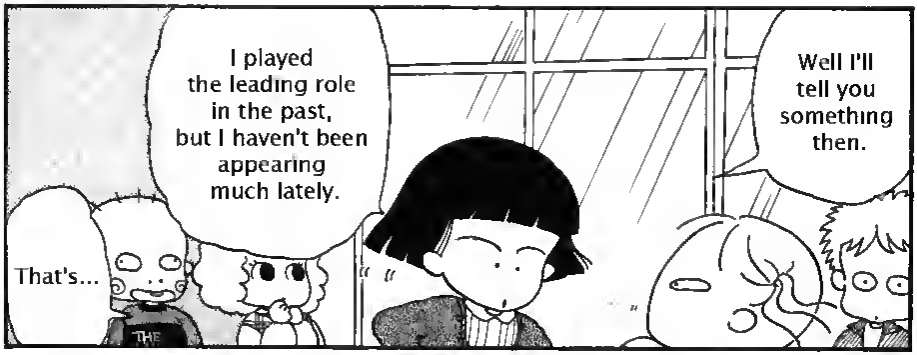
This goes beyond what's covered in the elementary school art curriculum.
What to do?
Teaching Guidelines
Ministry of Education
It's art.
Uh huh.
Tsuneko turned these into avant-garde works.
Minimal art.
Me too.
ART
POP
ART
Pop art.
If Tsuneko can do that, then I can do it too.
That's not fair.
Sketch the bouquet for an easy lesson
Me too.
Chatter
Chatter
Sniff
Yada
Yada
I'm doin' it too.
Yada
The teacher's crying.
Uh-oh.
I hate this class... I hate it.
Sniff
Clatter
Everyone cut it out!
I'm not giving grades.

This answer sheet is blank!
What is this?
Not only in art class. We could use this in math and Japanese too.
But think about it. This could be useful.
We've got to snap Tsuneko out of this somehow.
Huh?
How about that?
Haha
hahaha
I couldn't write my answers on it.
The blank test paper was just so beautiful.
Teacher
I stepped on Tsuneko's Matchy writing board.
What should I do?
Uh..
Matchy!
My
It's... it's okay. Tsuneko's still totally out of it...
Uh-oh.

Allleeee!
What're you doing!? My precious Matchy writing board!
Hm. So I guess we know Tsuneko's magic word now.
Her long journey ended all too soon.
I'm. I'm sorry
Fuss
Fuss
What are you, stupid?
She's back to her old self.
Whew
Munch
Describe...? It looks good, okay?
Tsuneko, would you describe this parfait?
THANKS Moko


Cynical Hysterie
Hour 26
I want to be
a normal girl.
Aaaah.

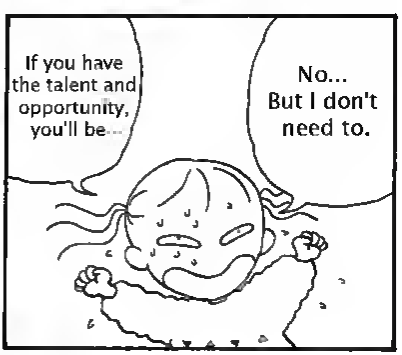
Sigh...
THE LOVECATS
Because ...
You're making it sound like you're not normal.
What do you mean?
...going to be a star.
I'm...
What about you then?
That's my line
What a big head!!
Grr


I played the leading role in the past, but I haven't been appearing much lately.
That's...
Well I'll tell you something then.

Ballet
Pantomime
Piano
Violin
English Conv
...because I've been busy taking all the lessons I need to be a star.

Uh.
Are you doing something, Tsuneko?
...Hanako hasn't been appearing much lately.
Mutter
Speaking of which ...
Mutter
Uh-huh.

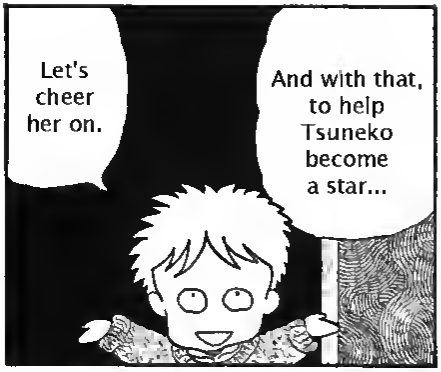
I want to be a global superstar.
That's why I'm taking English lessons.
My goal is not to be one of those cute dime-a-dozen celebrities.
Hmm!

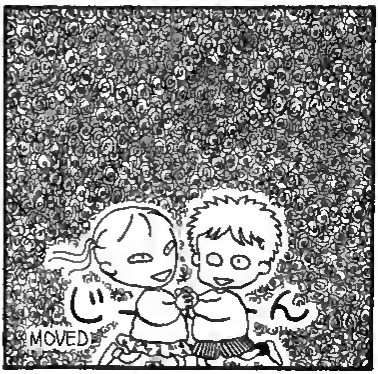

If you have the talent and opportunity, you'll be...
No... But I don't need to.

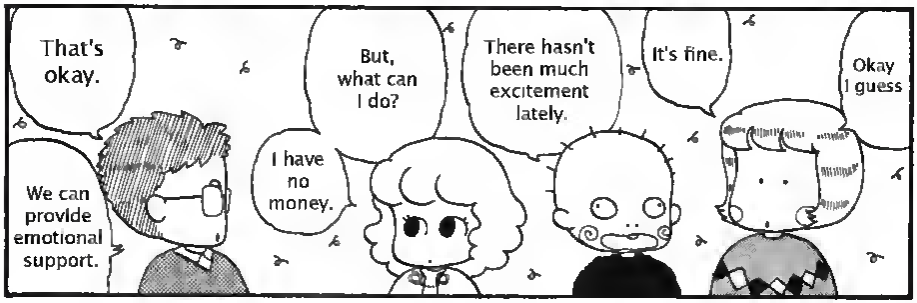
Hmm!
Wow
Cynical
Magical
Logical
Huh?!!
You can speak English, Hanako?
Tsuneko's mad but she can't fight back.
Uh-oh.
むっかーーっ
Grr
She's frustrated.
Glance
And this is the dance move I'm practicing
She's really mad.
Oh.
むむ
Grr
I hate this!
I hate this!
I hate this!

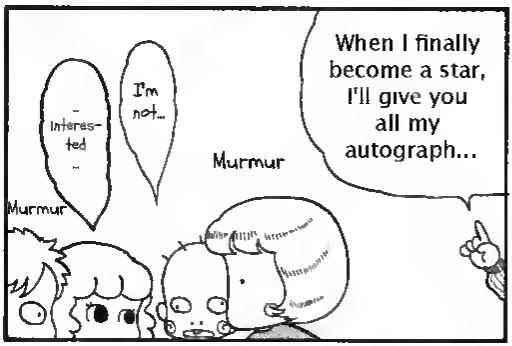
But mom.
What are you going to do with all those lessons?
No.
You want to take ballet and piano and English lessons?
Hm?
Rattle Rattle
Stingy
Stupid.
...I'm not about to spend that kind of money, either.
Old hag.
I'm not objecting, but...
...so she can be a star.
Hanako's taking those lessons...
She doesn't understand.
She didn't like your idea, huh?
It looks like it hurts. I'm sorry.
Liar!
Sniff
She slapped you?
Huh?
SLAP
Ah.
It's Hanako.
Clop
Clop
Hmm.
The Clown

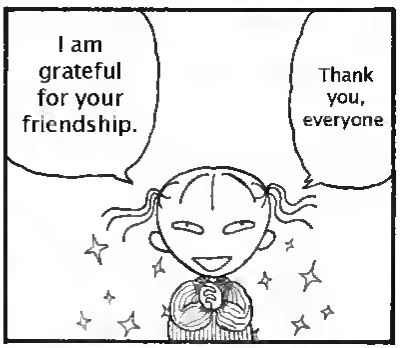
I'm going to my ballet lesson now.
Aren't you lucky, having nothing to do.
Bye.
Kiriko. Tsuneko.
Oh.
Ooh.. Ooh..
Calm down, calm down.
La-dee-da.
Use your frustration as energy to fuel your dream.
Tsuneko.
It's so frustrating!
Kiriko!
Ki... Kiriko...
I have nothing better to do.
I'll support you.
You can't let other people bring you down.

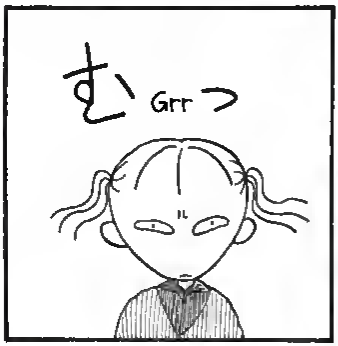

Let's cheer her on.
And with that, to help Tsuneko become a star...


MOVED


That's okay.
We can provide emotional support.
But, what can I do?
I have no money.
There hasn't been much excitement lately.
It's fine.
Okay I guess

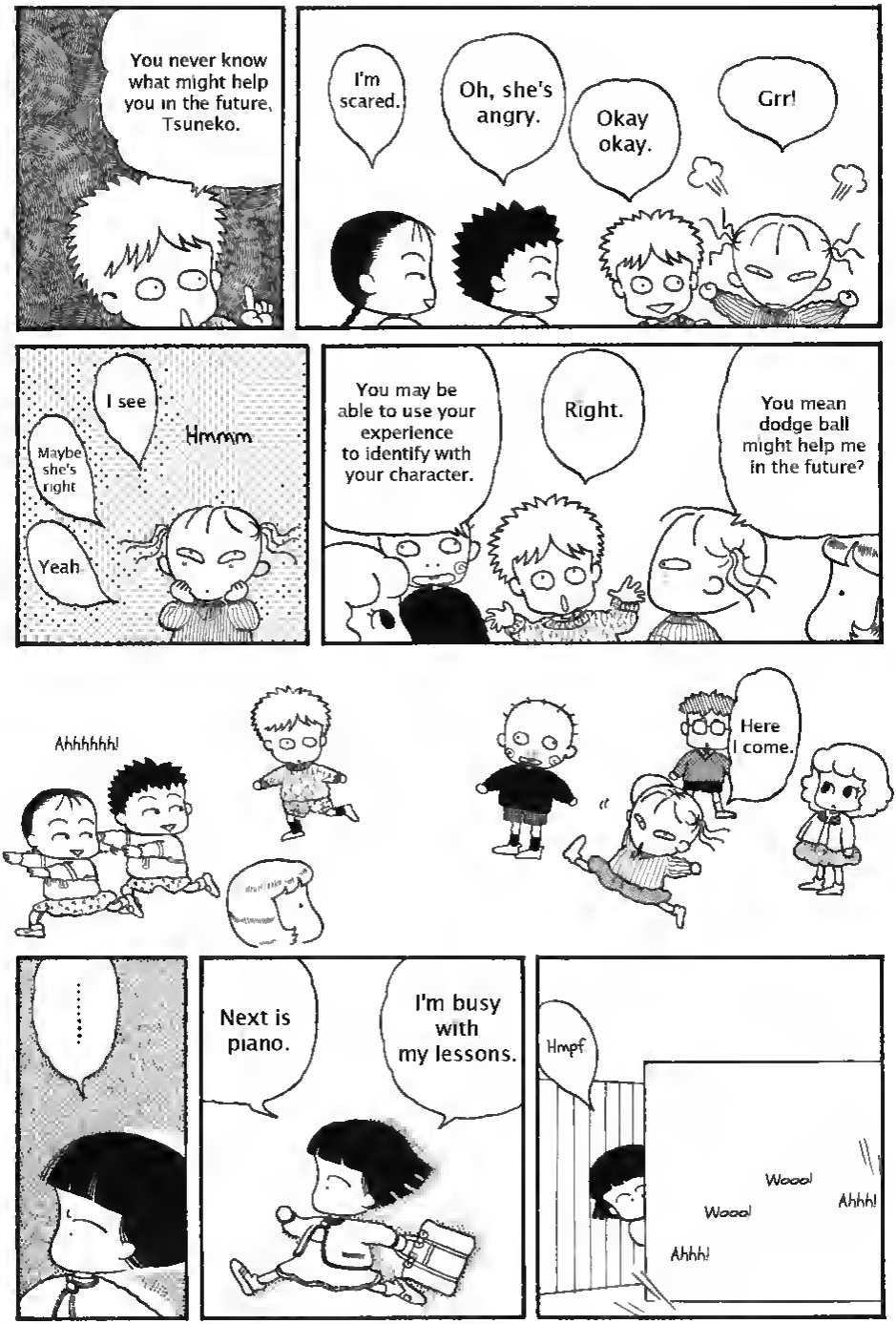

When I finally become a star, I'll give you all my autograph...
I'm not...
-Interested-
Murmur
Murmur

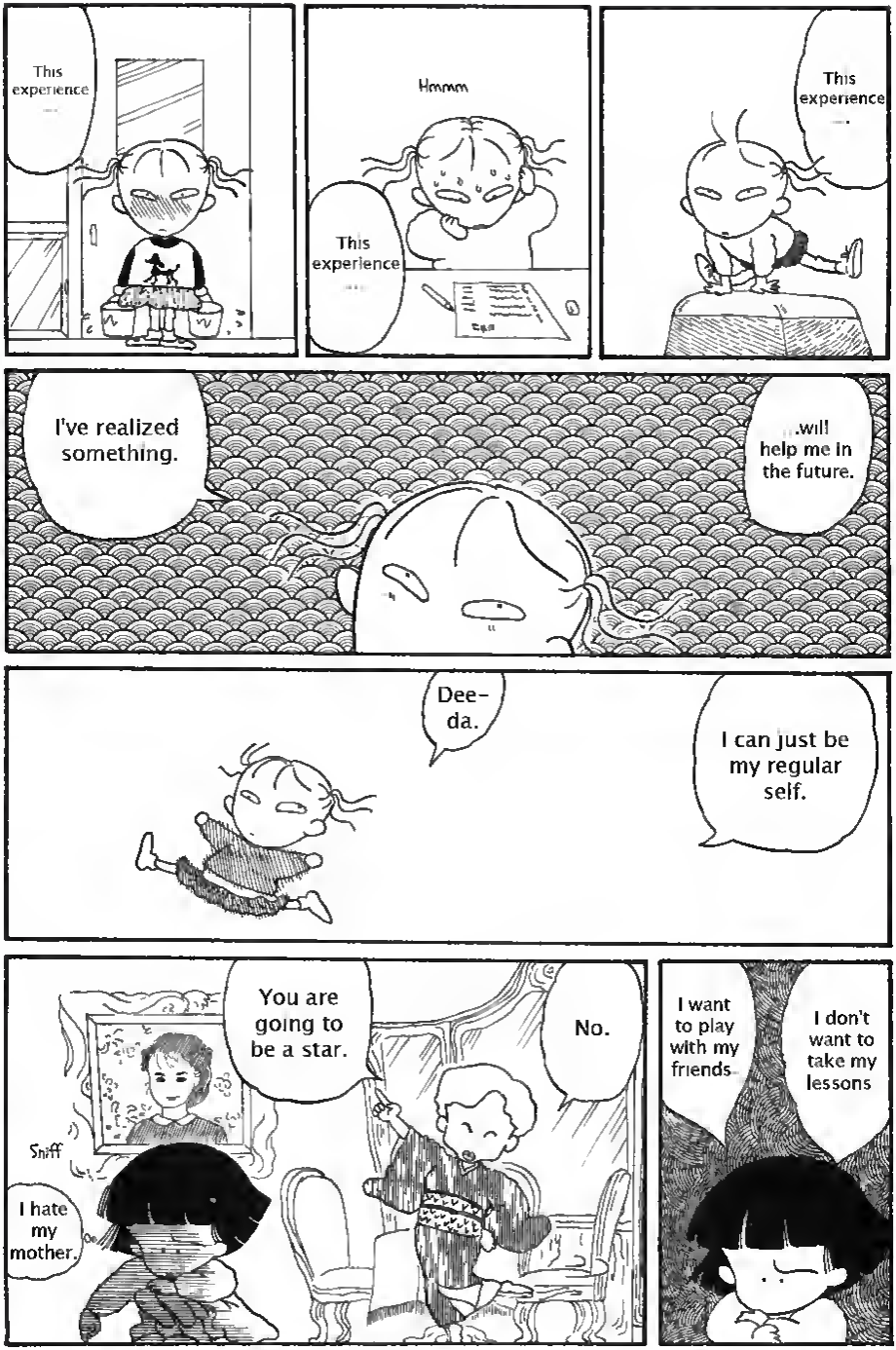

I am grateful for your friendship.
Thank you, everyone

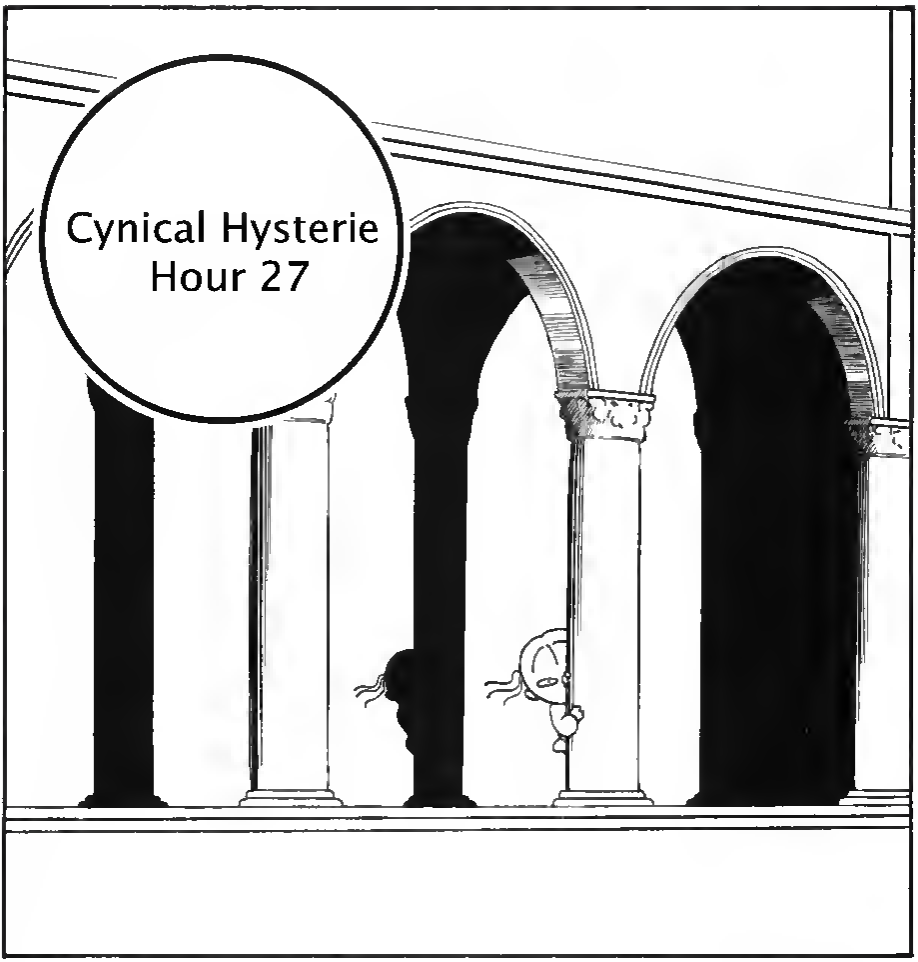

Grr

Chicken nuggets please.
McDonald's shake would be nice.
I'll take some fries.
You can give me a McDonald's hamburger instead.

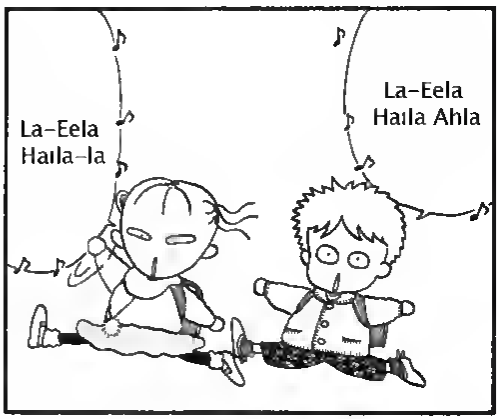
I'm going to be a star, you know!
You're all making fun of me!
Why are you talking about fast food?
Can I order dessert too?
You're amazing.
Wow!
...to Denny's.
I'll treat you all ...
Oh-ho-
ho-ho-ho
おおおお!!
What should we do now?
Dodge ball.
Thrilled
Waah!
Excited
What?

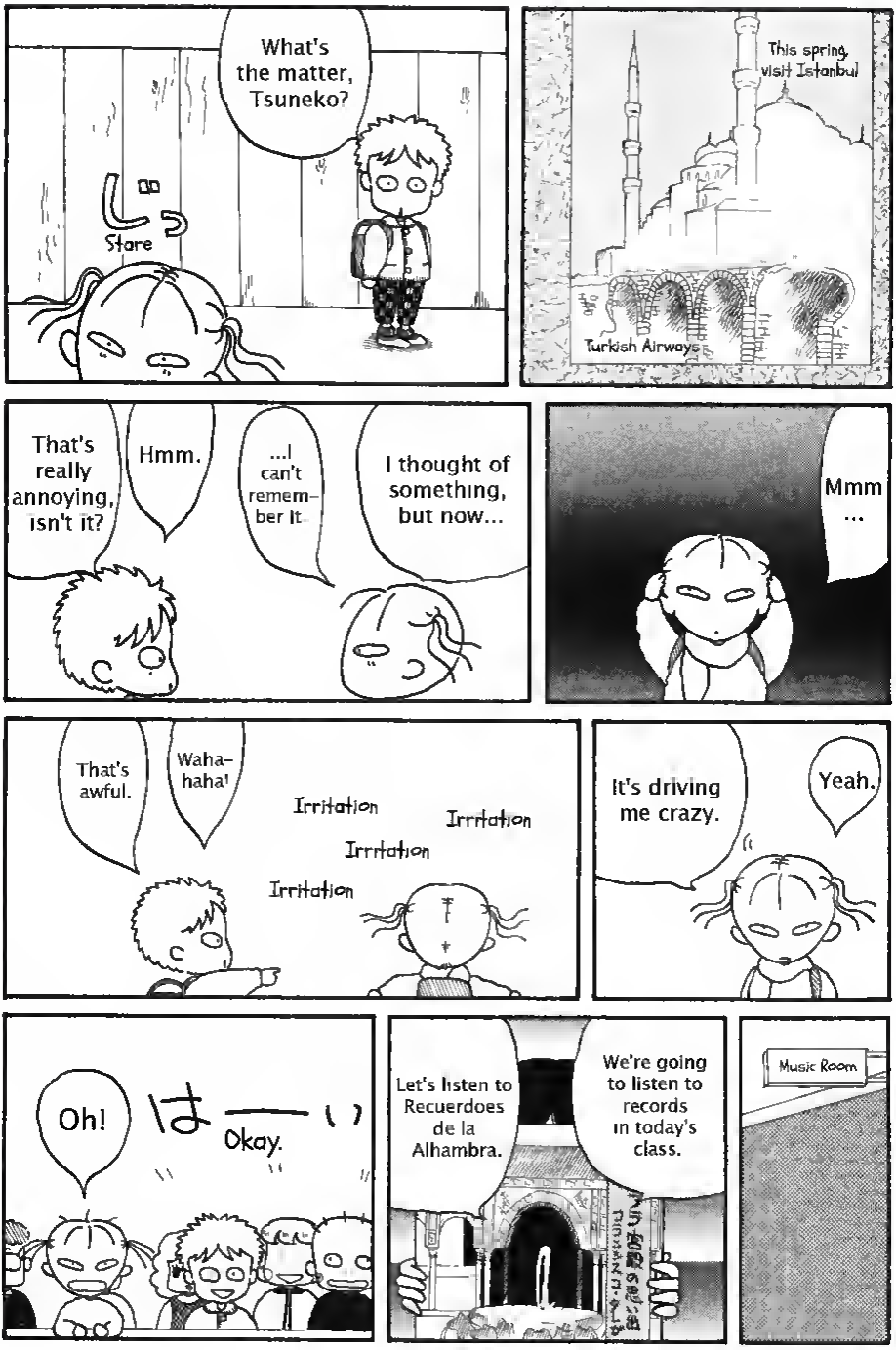

You never know what might help you in the future, Tsuneko.
I'm scared.
Oh, she's angry.
Okay okay.
Grr!
I see
Hmmm
Maybe she's right
Yeah
You may be able to use your experience to identify with your character.
Right.
You mean dodge ball might help me in the future?
Ahhhhhh!
Here I come.
Next is piano.
I'm busy with my lessons.
Hmpf
Wooo!
Ahhh!
Wooo!
Ahhh!

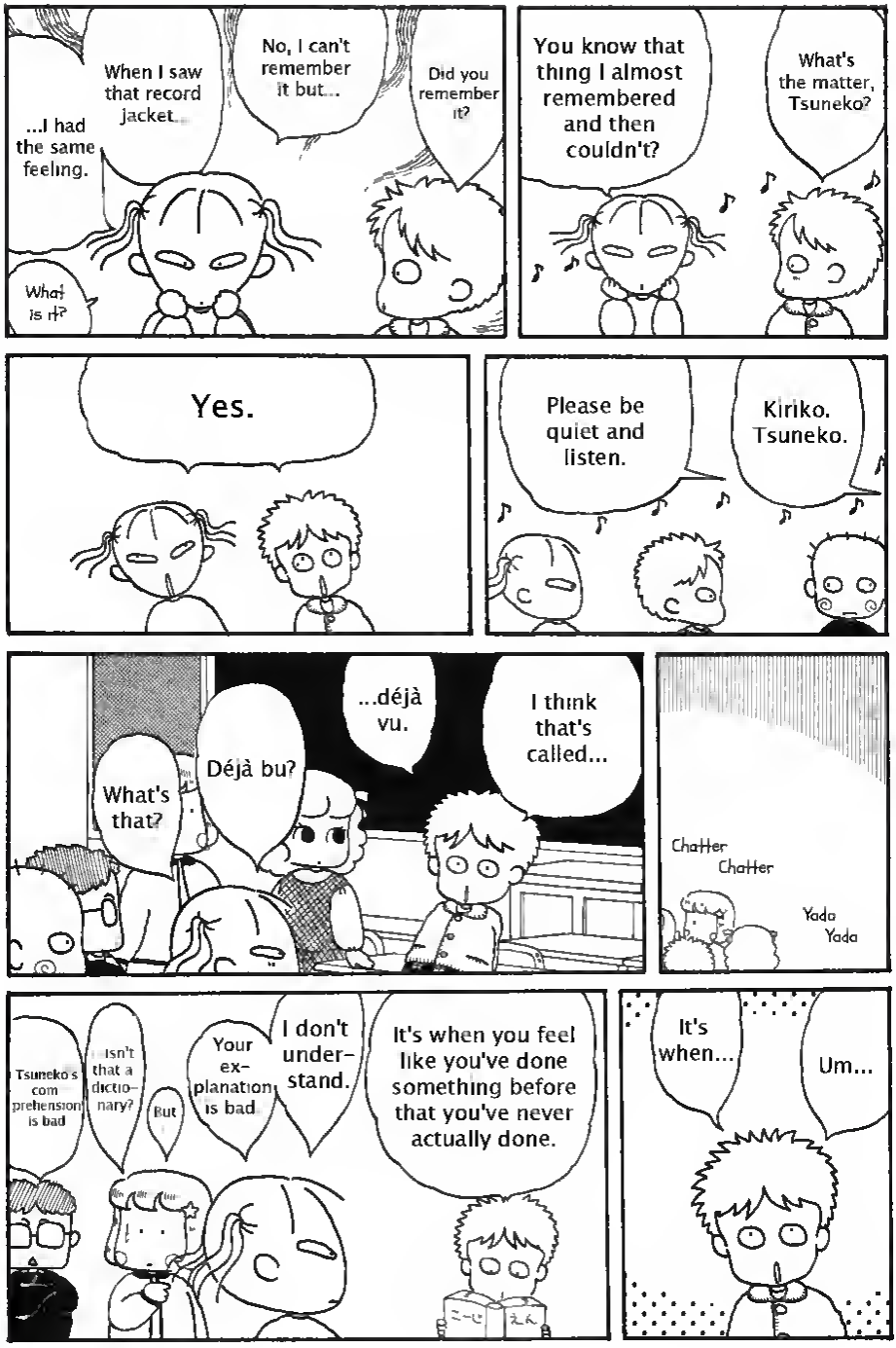

This experience
Hmmm
This experience
This experience
I've realized something.
...will help me in the future.
Dee-da.
I can just be my regular self.
You are going to be a star.
No.
Sniff
I hate my mother.
I want to play with my friends
I don't want to take my lessons

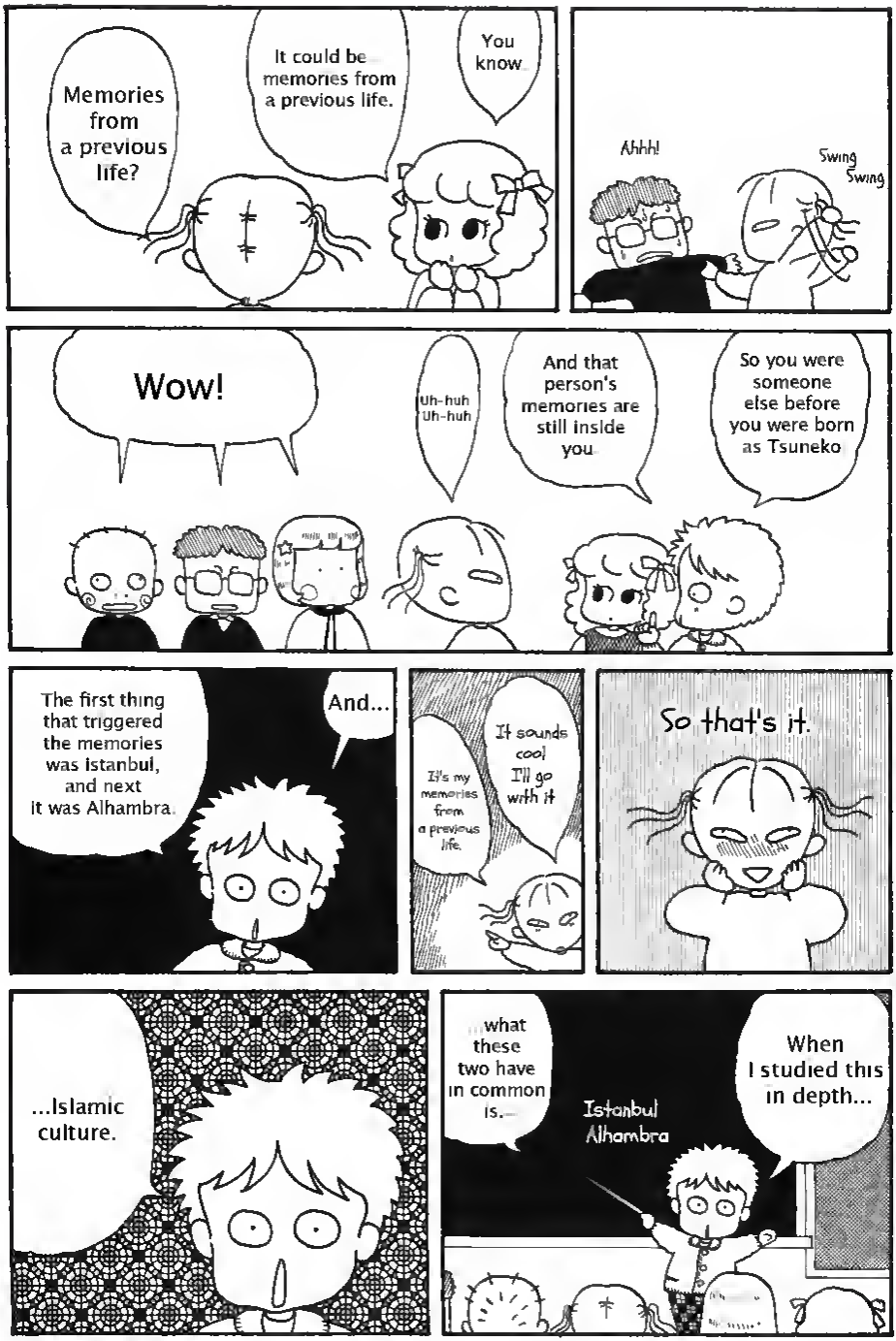

Cynical Hysterie
Hour 27

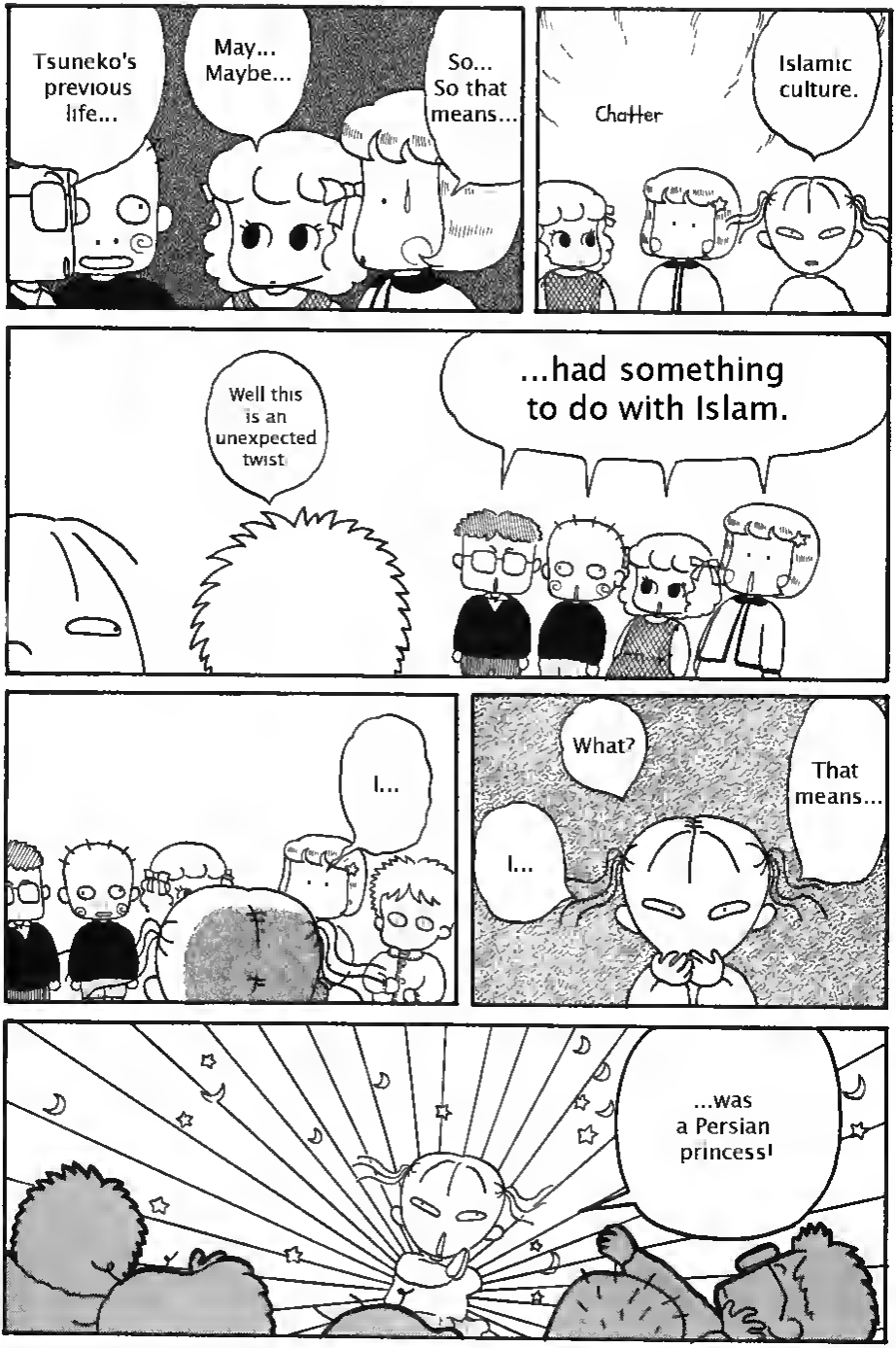
La

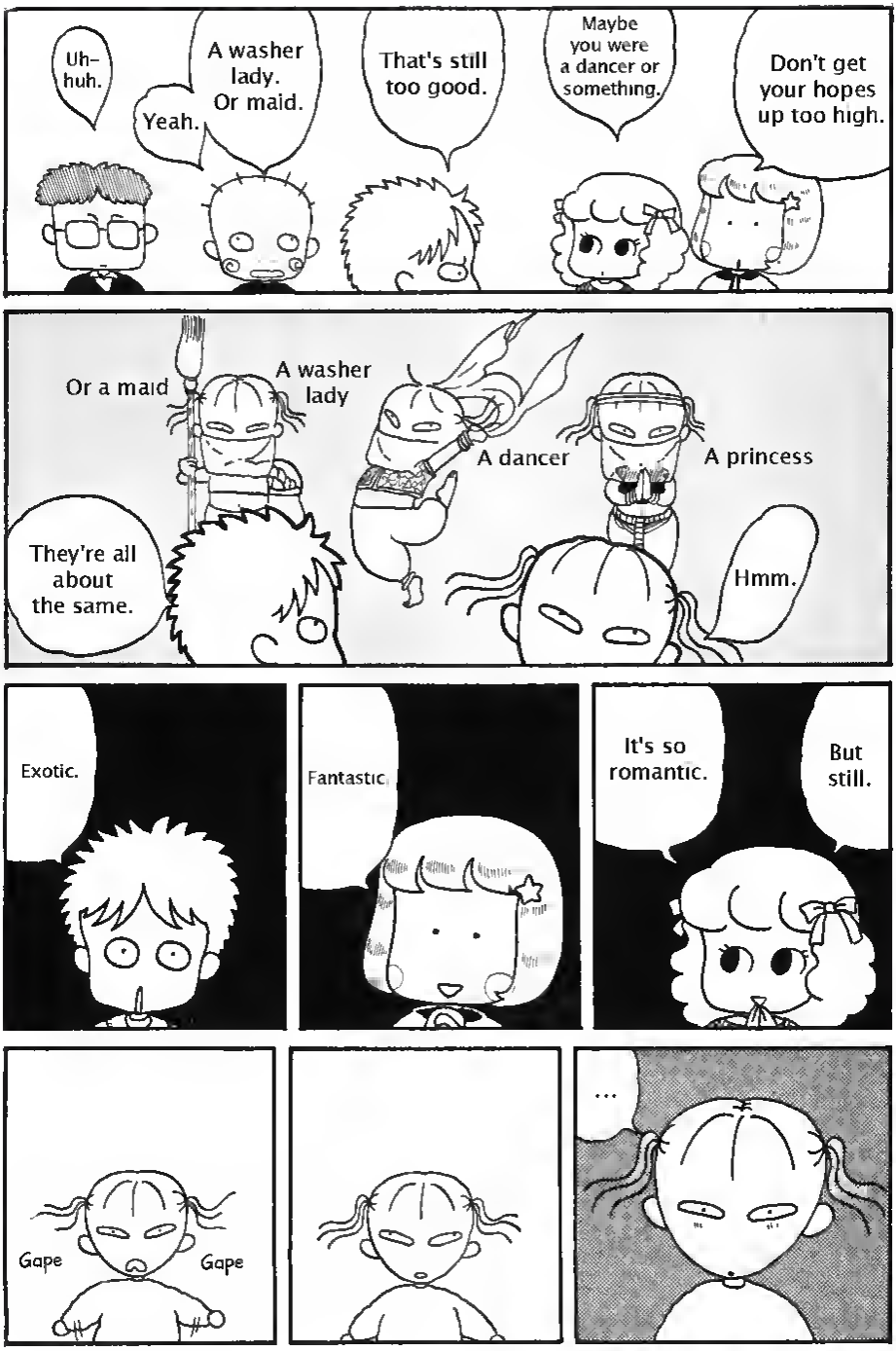

La-Eela
Haila-la
La-Eela
Haila Ahla


What's the matter, Tsuneko?
Stare
This spring, visit Istanbul
Turkish Airways
That's really annoying, isn't it?
Hmm.
...I can't remember it
I thought of something, but now...
Mmm ...
That's awful.
Waha-haha!
Irritation
Irritation
Irritation
Irritation
It's driving me crazy.
Yeah.
Oh!
は――い?
Okay.
Let's listen to Recuerdoes de la Alhambra.
We're going to listen to records in today's class.
Music Room

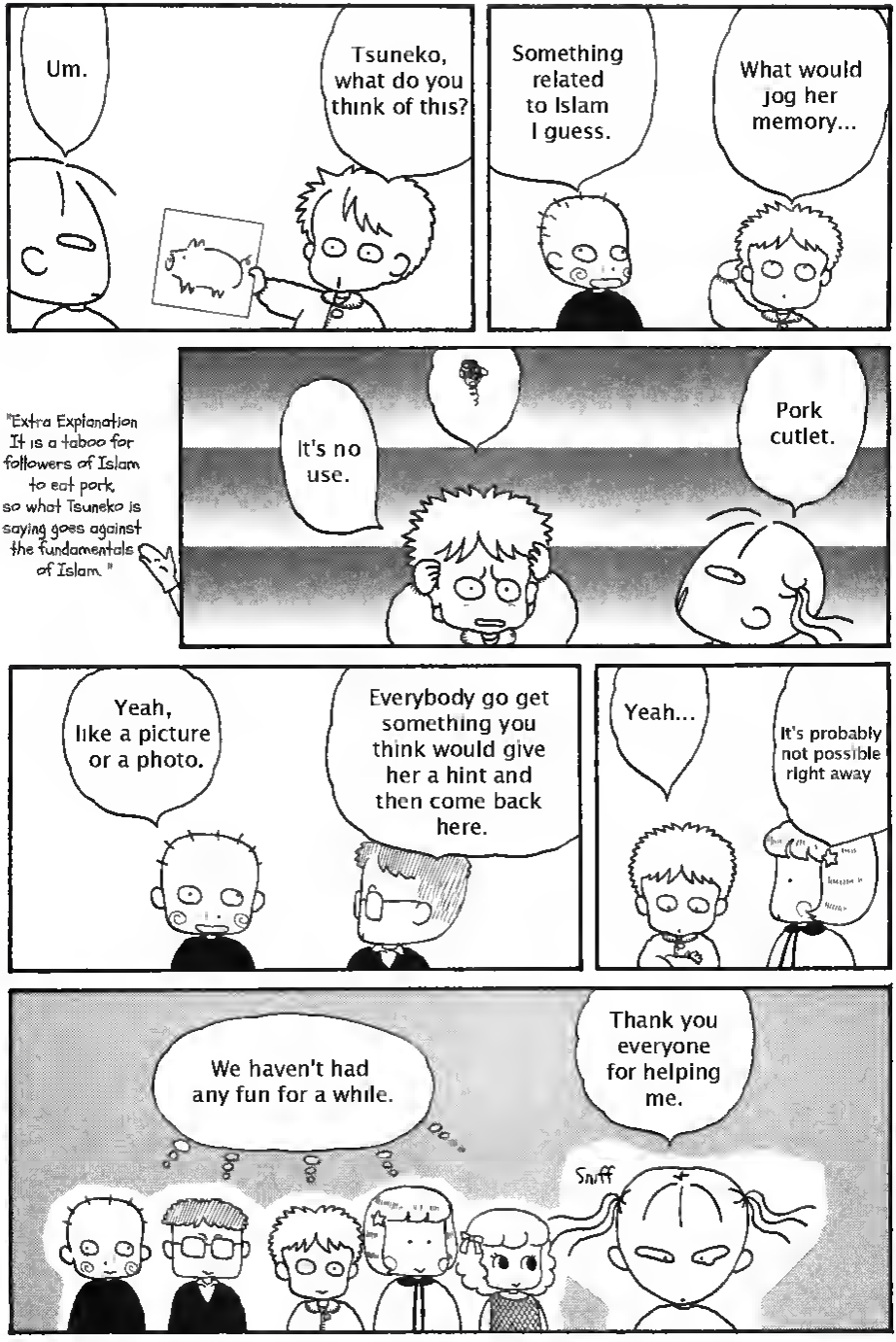

...I had the same feeling.
When I saw that record jacket...
No, I can't remember it but...
Did you remember it?
What is it?
You know that thing I almost remembered and then couldn't?
What's the matter, Tsuneko?
Yes.
Please be quiet and listen.
Kiriko. Tsuneko.
What's that?
Déjà bu?
...déjà vu.
I think that's called...
Chatter Chatter
Yada Yada
Tsuneko's com prehension is bad
Isn't that a dictio-nary?
But
Your ex-planation is bad.
I don't under-stand.
It's when you feel like you've done something before that you've never actually done.
It's when...
Um...

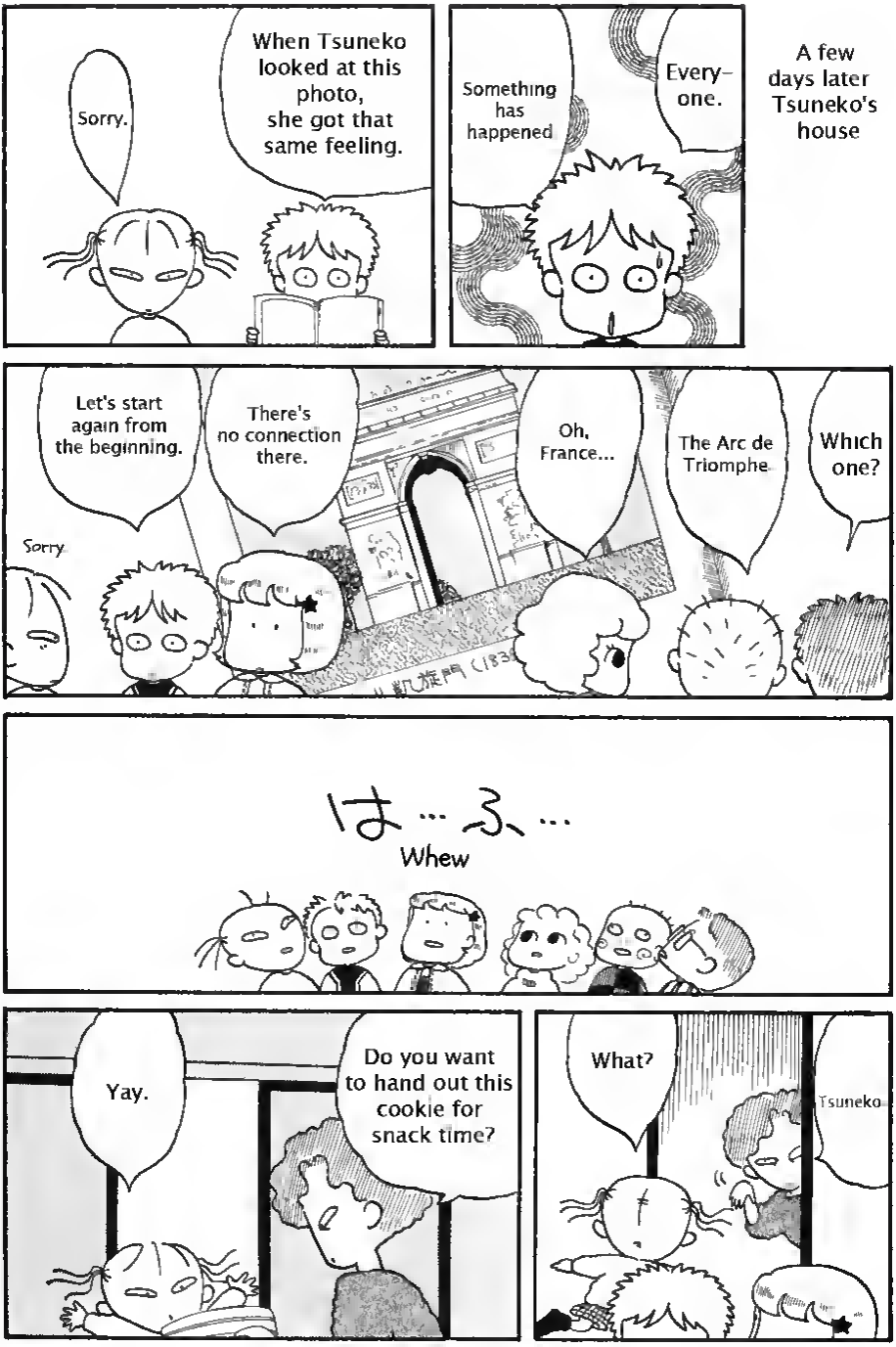

Memories from a previous life?
It could be memories from a previous life.
You know
Ahhh!
Swing
Swing
Wow!
Uh-huh
Uh-huh
And that person's memories are still inside you
So you were someone else before you were born as Tsuneko
The first thing that triggered the memories was Istanbul, and next it was Alhambra.
And...
It's my memories from a previous life.
It sounds cool I'll go with it
So that's it.
...Islamic culture.
...what these two have in common is...
Istanbul
Alhambra
When I studied this in depth...

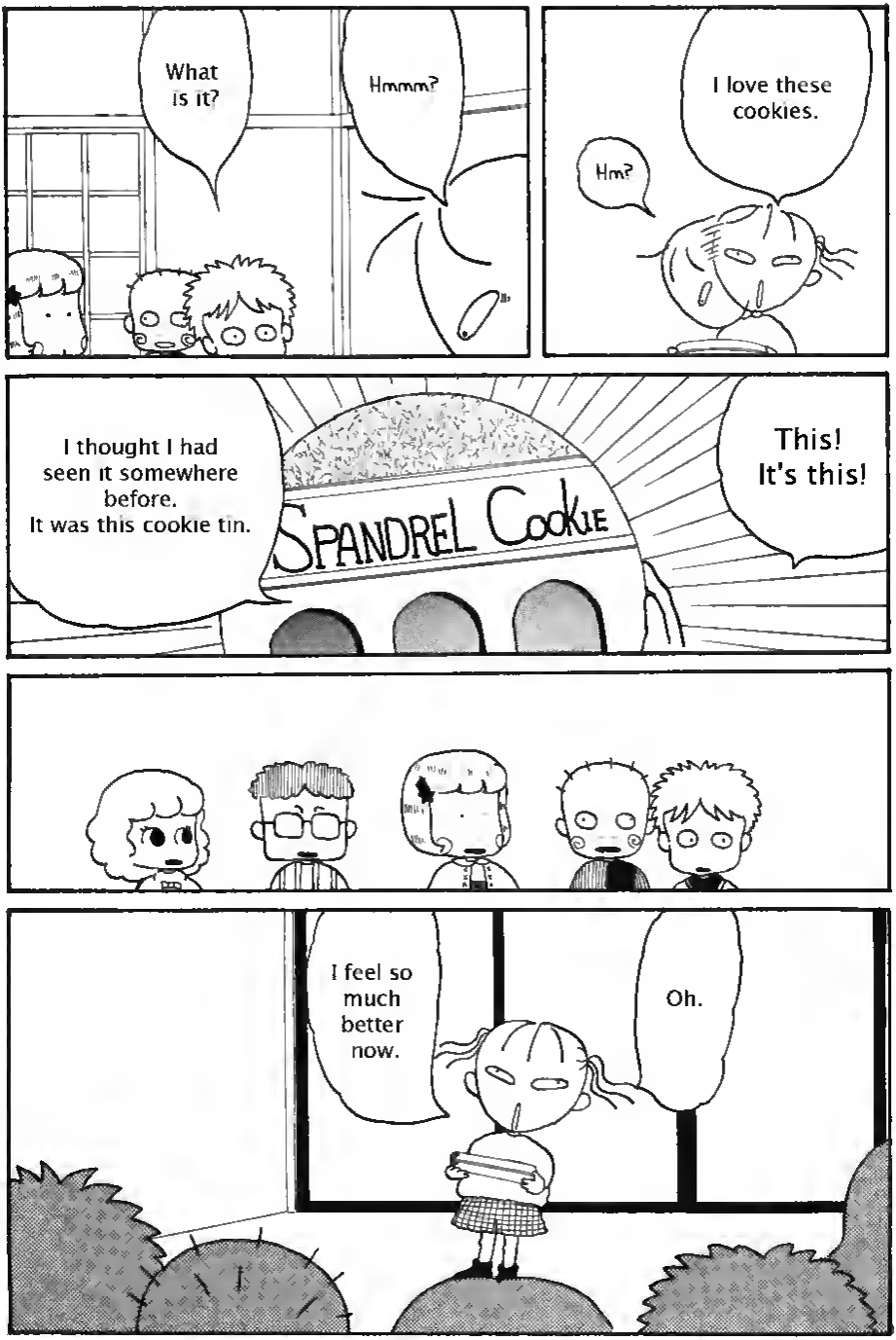

Tsuneko's previous life...
May... Maybe...
So... So that means...
Chatter
Islamic culture.
Well this is an unexpected twist
...had something to do with Islam.
I...
What?
That means...
I...
...was a Persian princess!


Uh-huh.
Yeah.
A washer lady. Or maid.
That's still too good.
Maybe you were a dancer or something.
Don't get your hopes up too high.
Or a maid
A washer lady
A dancer
A princess
They're all about the same.
Hmm.
Exotic.
Fantastic.
It's so romantic.
But still.
Gape
Gape
...

No!
...Is that the word I'm looking for?
Plastic
わーい
Yay
Let's look for treasure!
Do you remember anything like, hidden treasures in your previous life?
Hey, Tsuneko.
I could go on TV.
Enchanted
Yeah, if we're good, maybe we'll find something.
おーい
Okay!
Let's all work to make Tsuneko remember as much as possible.


Um.
Tsuneko, what do you think of this?
Something related to Islam I guess.
What would jog her memory...
"Extra Explanation
It is a taboo for followers of Islam to eat pork, so what Tsuneko is saying goes against the fundamentals of Islam."
It's no use.
Pork cutlet.
Yeah, like a picture or a photo.
Everybody go get something you think would give her a hint and then come back here.
Yeah...
It's probably not possible right away
We haven't had any fun for a while.
Thank you everyone for helping me.
Sniff

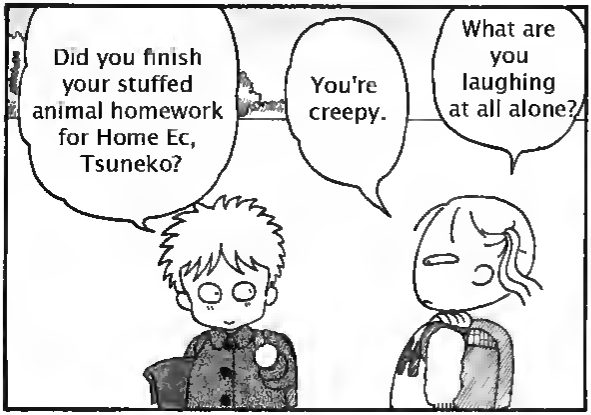

Sorry.
When Tsuneko looked at this photo, she got that same feeling.
Something has happened
Every-one.
A few days later Tsuneko's house
Let's start again from the beginning.
There's no connection there.
Oh, France...
The Arc de Triomphe
Which one?
Sorry
凱旋門 (183
はぁ…ふ…
Whew
Yay.
Do you want to hand out this cookie for snack time?
What?
Tsuneko

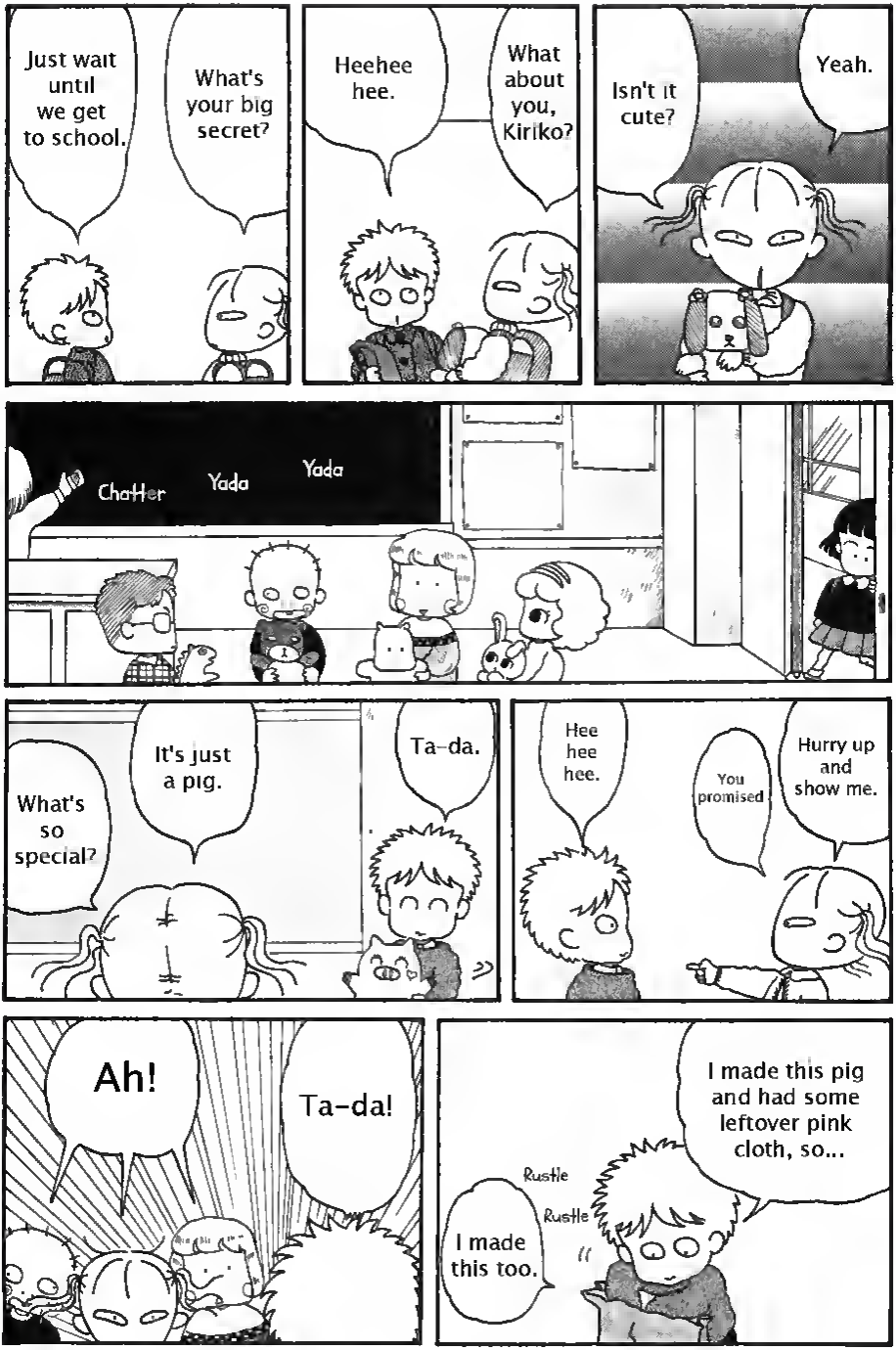

What is it?
Hmmm?
I love these cookies.
Hm?
I thought I had seen it somewhere before. It was this cookie tin.
SPANDREL Cookie
This! It's this!
I feel so much better now.
Oh.

Françoise

Cynical Hysterie Hour

Special Episode



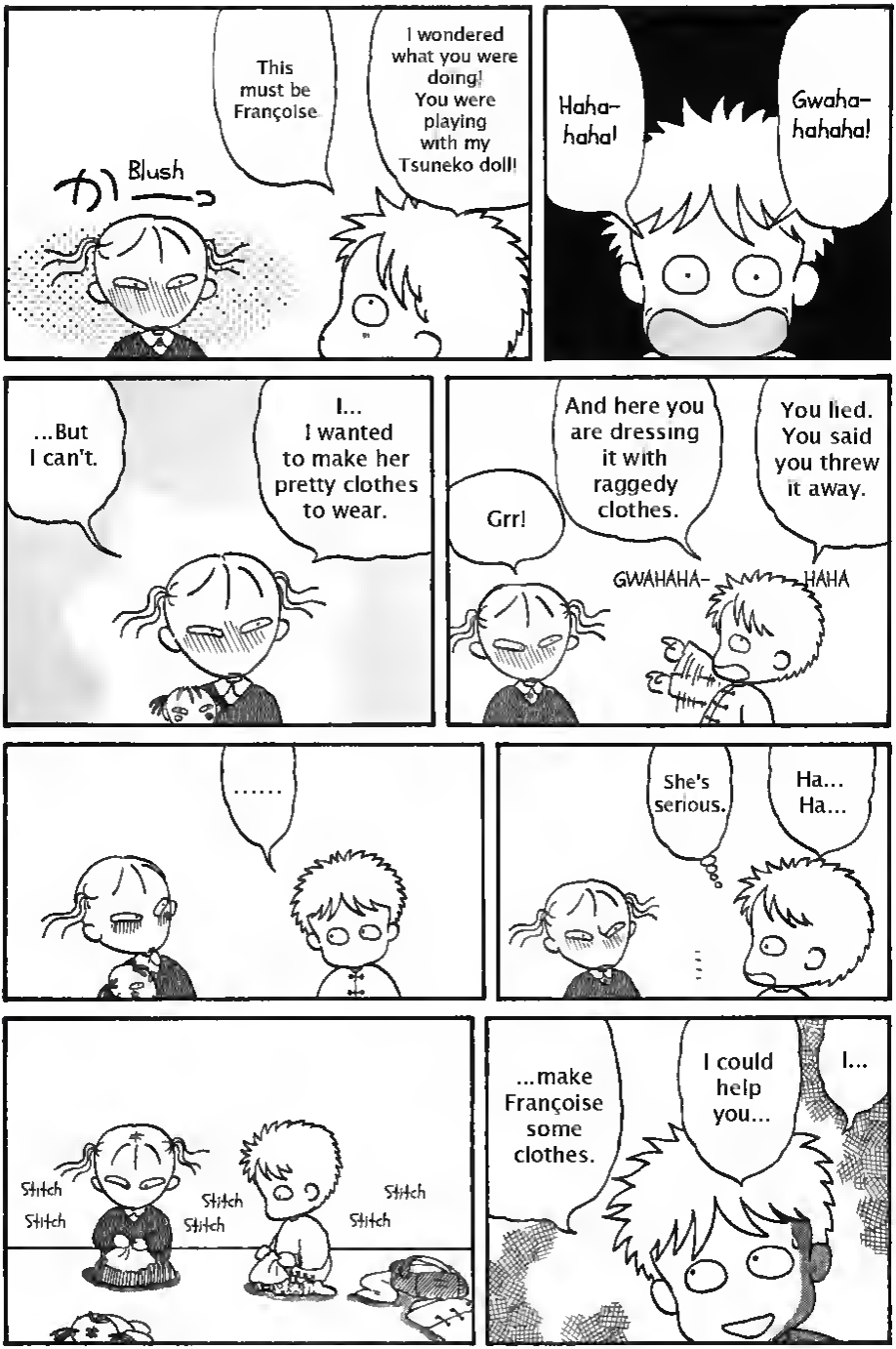

Just wait until we get to school.
What's your big secret?
Heehee hee.
What about you, Kiriko?
Isn't it cute?
Yeah.
Chatter
Yada
Yada
What's so special?
It's just a pig.
Ta-da.
Hee hee hee.
You promised
Hurry up and show me.
Ah!
Ta-da!
I made this too.
Rustle
Rustle
I made this pig and had some leftover pink cloth, so...

...
It does.
Doesn't it look like her?
Eek!
What!?
むかっ
Grr
Leftover pig cloth.
Swing
Swing
Kiriko, you idiot!
Gyaha-haha!
You can have it.
Toss
Haha-haha!
...Making fun of people...
Fools!
Waa!
Ahh!

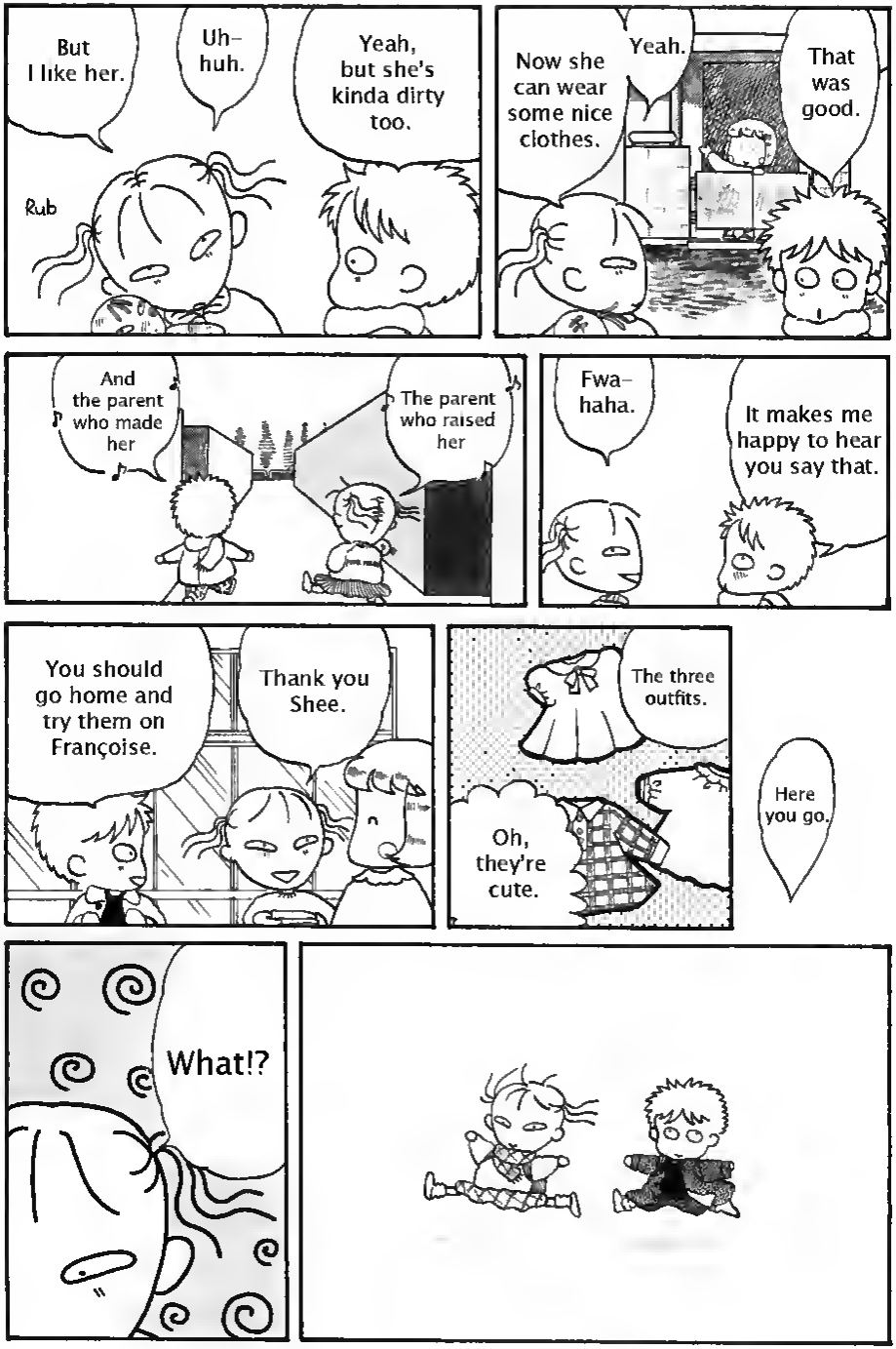
...cute.
It's pretty...
Stare
I threw it away.
What happened to the doll?
Tsuneko.
See ya.
Oooh why you...
Hmpf
If you were gonna throw it away, why not just give it back!?
That's awful!
Hey!
I'll have some later.
Sure.
?
Hi there. Do you want some cake?
I'm home.

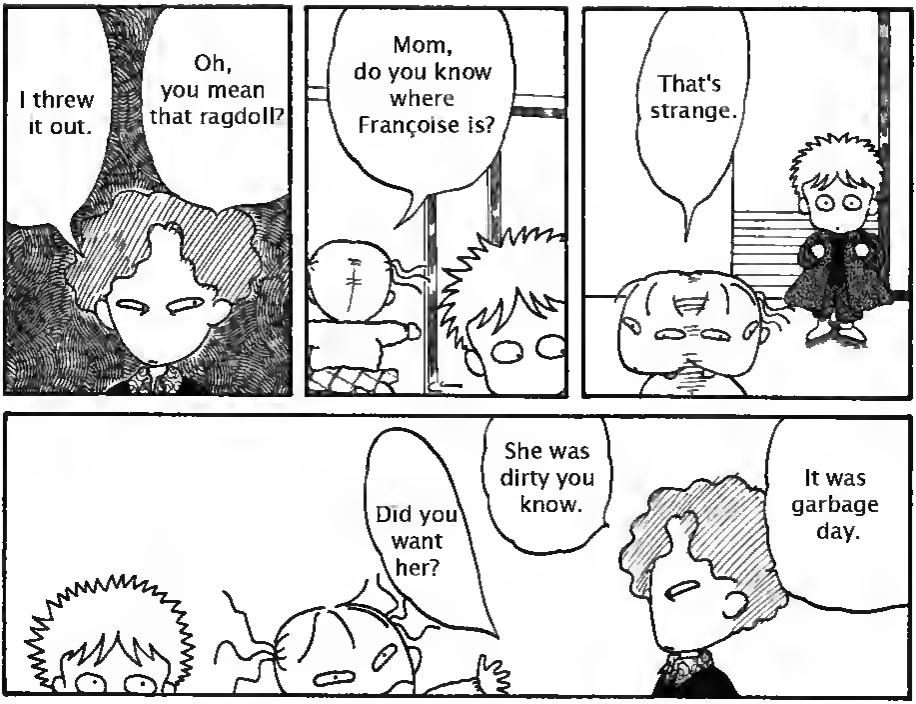
Grin.
Rustle
Rustle
I want something with flowers or polka dots on it.
Aren't you going to make a rag?
No, not dirty cloth.
Sure.
Mom, can I have some of the leftover cloth?
She needs some clothes.
Stitch
Stitch
Stitch
Stitch
It looks like she's wearing a rag.
.....

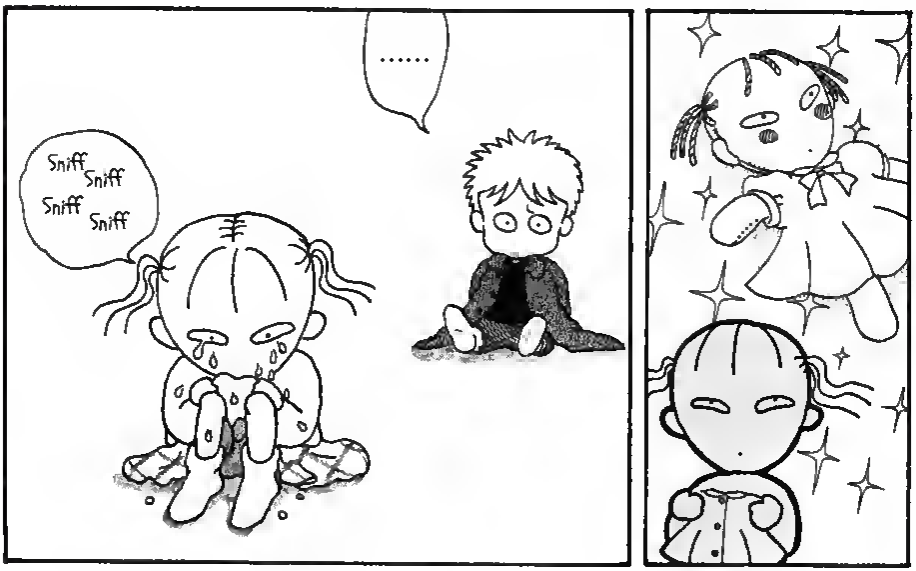
I wonder if she's still mad about the doll.
Tsuneko's been going home early lately.
She can really hold a grudge.
Bye-bye.
Ding Dong
Ding Dong
Maybe she can't hear me.
Tsuneko. Tsuneko.
Come in, Kiriko.
Tsuuuneko.
...I should give in first.
May be ...
I'm such an adult
Maybe I don't have any talent.
All the clothes I make look like rags.
And I thought I had what it takes to be a designer.
Hmm.
Ah!
Françoise?
Someday i'll make you a proper dress.
Sorry, Françoise.


This must be Françoise
I wondered what you were doing! You were playing with my Tsuneko doll!
Blush
Haha-haha!
Gwaha-hahaha!
...But I can't.
I... I wanted to make her pretty clothes to wear.
Grr!
And here you are dressing it with raggedy clothes.
You lied. You said you threw it away.
GWAHAHA-
HAHA
.....
She's serious.
Ha... Ha...
Stitch
Stitch
Stitch
Stitch
Stitch
Stitch
...make Françoise some clothes.
I could help you...
I...

That's right, Françoise's seams are off too.
You
Kiriko, your clothes are just as bad as mine. They look like rags.
Ack, this is awful.
I'm no good at Home Ec.
I've had it
Hm. It's not going very well.
You poor thing...
Blank
I'm done!
Shut up!
Oh!
That's a good idea.
Why don't we ask Shee? She's really good at Home Ec.
I know.
Ah.
ばんざーい
Yay!
...but I can make you three outfits this week.
I can't do it right away...
Sure.


But I like her.
Uh-huh.
Yeah, but she's kinda dirty too.
Rub
Now she can wear some nice clothes.
Yeah.
That was good.
And the parent who made her
The parent who raised her
Fwa-haha.
It makes me happy to hear you say that.
You should go home and try them on Françoise.
Thank you Shee.
The three outfits.
Oh, they're cute.
Here you go.
What!?


I threw it out.
Oh, you mean that ragdoll?
Mom, do you know where Françoise is?
That's strange.
Did you want her?
She was dirty you know.
It was garbage day.


.....
Sniff Sniff
Sniff Sniff

End Vol. 1

Cynical Hysterie Hour Vol.1

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